



CITY OF PLYMOUTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
PORT MEDICAL OFFICER
AND
SCHOOL MEDICAL OFFICER
FOR THE YEAR 1937.



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FOR THE YEAR 1937.

T. PEIRSON, M.D., D.P.H.

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PUBLIC HEALTH AND MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE COMMITTEE.

The following Members of the City Council served on the Public Health and Maternity and Child Welfare Committee during the year :—

Alderman F. D. Baxter (*Chairman*), Councillor (Mrs.) L. Brock (*Vice-Chairman*), Councillors (Mrs.) C. H. Daymond, A. H. Crimp, R. C. Ray, (Mrs.) J. Marshall, (Mrs.) J. Pook (up to November), H. Porter, A. E. Travers-Stubbs, H. E. Williams (up to November), H. Avery, S. Robins, A. E. Taylor (since November), F. E. Sparrow (since November).

EDUCATION COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Alderman R. McDonald.

Vice-Chairman: Alderman G. P. Dymond, J.P., M.A.

Aldermen J. W. A. Campbell, J. L. Cornish, G. A. Daymond, H. Mason, J.P., R. R. Oke, and W. H. Weston.

Councillors R. F. Axworthy, A. H. Crimp, D. L. Dean, C. S. King, E. J. Lavelle, J. H. Morgans, S. W. R. Pettett, H. G. Phillips, (Mrs.) J. Pook, G. P. Ross, A. L. Strachan, B.A., A. G. H. Thatcher.

Lady W. H. Mounstephen, Mrs. F. D. Baxter, Mrs. B. Bull, Mrs. E. Lyne, Mrs. C. R. Cload, Mrs. F. Johns.

The Rev. T. D. Thomas, B.A., R.D., and the Rev. J. H. McDonald.
Messrs. W. J. S. Morrell, V. Pedlar, H. W. Ralph, and N. J. P. Revington.

MEDICAL TREATMENT SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman: Alderman J. W. A. Campbell.

Alderman G. A. Daymond.

Councillors R. F. Axworthy, A. H. Crimp, J. H. Morgans, (Mrs.) J. Pook, A. L. Strachan, B.A.

Mrs. F. D. Baxter, Mrs. B. Bull, Mrs. E. Lyne, and Mrs. C. R. Cload.
Messrs. V. Pedlar and N. J. P. Revington.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY.

A. *Medical*—whole-time.

T. Peirson, M.D., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health ; General Medical Superintendent, City Hospitals ; Port Medical Officer ; School Medical Officer.

E. Hughes, M.D., M.B., ch.B., D.P.H., Deputy Medical Officer of Health ; Senior Assistant Port Medical Officer.

D. F. Johnstone, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Resident Medical Officer, Isolation Hospital ; Venereal Diseases Medical Officer.

H. T. Chatfield, M.C., M.B., D.P.H., Clinical Tuberculosis Officer.

Marion Smellie, M.A., M.B., D.P.H., Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

Mildred A. Thynne, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

Iris V. I. Ward, M.D., Assistant Maternity and Child Welfare Medical Officer.

R. B. Mayfield, M.D., B.Ch., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., Assistant Port Medical Officer. (Resigned 6-12-37).

A. T. Bettinson, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S., Resident Medical Officer, Didworthy Sanatorium.

P. W. Griffin, L.R.C.P. & S (I), Resident Medical Officer, Mount Gold Hospital.

G. E. Larks, M.B., ch.M., F.R.C.S. (Eng. and Edin.), Medical Superintendent, City Hospital.

J. Laurie, M.B., ch.B., M.R.C.P.E., F.R.C.S.E., Deputy Medical Superintendent, City Hospital. (Resigned 30-7-37).

W. Warren, M.B., ch.B., M.R.C.P., L.R.C.P., Deputy Medical Superintendent, City Hospital. (Appointed 18-9-37).

J. W. E. Cole, M.A., M.B., ch.B., D.P.H., Deputy School Medical Officer.

G. B. Carter, M.B., ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer.

Christina Thomson, M.B., ch.B., D.P.H., Assistant School Medical Officer.

Four Resident Medical Officers, City Hospital.

Dental Surgeons—whole-time.

A. Maughan, M.C., L.D.S., E. R. Williams, L.D.S., G.V. Lavelle, L.D.S. (resigned 7.12.37), Miss A. M. N. Stewart, L.D.S., Miss N. Johnson, B.D.S.

Medical—part-time.

Consulting Physicians:—

W. A. Lister, M.B., M.R.C.P.

T. A. A. Hunter, B.A., M.B., M.R.C.P.

Consulting Surgeons:—

L. W. Innes, M.B., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

E. F. Wilson, F.R.C.S.

Orthopædic Surgeons:—

N. Capener, F.R.C.S.

C. M. Kennedy, F.R.C.S.

Consulting Gynæcologists:—

Mabel Ramsay, M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.), D.P.H.

J. W. G. H. Riddell, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.S. (Ed.).

Pathologist:—

E. Wordley, M.C., M.D., F.R.C.P.

Consulting Ophthalmologist:—

W. H. Davis, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Consulting Laryngologists:—

C. R. Crowther, M.D. (Died 14-9-37).

C. C. Prance, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

R. Howarth, M.D. (Appointed 15-9-37).

Consulting Radiologist:—

A. Craig Mooney, M.B., Ch.B. (Liverpool), D.M.R.F.

Consulting Anæsthetists:—

S. G. Irlam, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

H. N. Palmer, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (Died 11-12-1937).

District Medical Officers:—

Plymouth :

W. P. Hardwicke, L.M.S.S.A.
T. M. Jamieson, B.A., L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S. (Ed.).
H. R. Cara, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S. (Resigned 7.8.37).
A. V. Ledger, M.D.
C. Hutchinson, M.A., M.B., Ch.B. B.A.O. (Appointed 8.8.37.)

Devonport :

R. J. K. Fleming, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
B. H. Stribling, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
G. A. Pratt, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.

Stonehouse :

J. Simpson-White, O.B.E., M.B., B.Ch.

Public Vaccinators:—

Plymouth and Stonehouse :

W. H. Waterfield, L.R.C.P.I., L.M.

Devonport :

J. N. Morris, L.R.C.P., M.R.C.S.
G. C. Sandford, M.D., C.M.

B. Other Staff.

Chief Sanitary Inspector:—

N. Ruse,* F.S.I.A.

Sanitary Inspectors:—

V. Edwards,*† W. S. Northmore,*† (Factories and Workshops, Milkshops and Dairies' Inspector), H. Smith,*† T. Painter,* S. Fedrick* W. McGinness* W. T. Pessell,* W. S. Wales*† (Food and Drugs Act Inspector, and Inspector of Dairies and Milkshops), L. England,*† (Resigned 15-8-37) A. S. Kitt,*† A. E. Collam* (Fish Inspector), W. G. Lock*†, W. G. Collam* (Appointed 16-3-37), C. Bennett* (Resigned 24-6-37), L. N. Tope†* (Appointed 25-6-37).

Meat Inspectors:—

J. Thorning,*†† P. A. Hawthorn.*†

Port Sanitary Inspector:—

P. S. Bulleid.*†

Health Visitors:—

M. Baxter ||*° (Superintendent Health Visitor), K. Gillard,||§° M. K. Reid,||° F. A. Rendell,||° F. Wood,||° S. Dawkins,||° E. Burrows,||§° F. Parnell,||° F. Sprigg,||° I. M. Arscott,||° L. Macdonald° (Tuberculosis Health Visitor), M. Cox§ (Tuberculosis Health Visitor), N. Cruse° (Tuberculosis Health Visitor), F. L. Gray||§° K. M. Pethybridge||§°, E. Appleyard||§° (Resigned 16-10-37), E. M. Arscott§ (Appointed 22-11-37),

Nurses for General School Duties:—

Miss M. J. Fletcher,°|| Miss M. Le Prevost, Miss E. M. B. Parkinson,° Miss G. M. Phillips,° Miss G. M. Speakman,°|| Miss F. T. Spokes.°

Nurses for Dental and other Duties:—

Mrs. E. J. Gale, Miss M. B. Roach,°|| Mrs. F. Pritchard||° (temporary).

Dental Attendant :—

Mrs. A. Powell (appointed temporary 8.2.37 ; permanent, 4.10.37).

Nurses for Open Air School and other Duties :—

Miss J. Bowden ° Miss M. E. White.°

Nurse for Special M.D. School and other Duties :—

Miss M. H. Landells.°

Nurse for Ophthalmic Duties :—

Mrs. G. M. Noble° (part-time).

All full-time Nurses are available for duties other than those specified when required .

School Orthopædic and Remedial Clinics :—

Miss A. Lethbridge C.S.M.M.G. (in Charge).

Mrs. E. M. B. Collier C.S.M.M.G.

Miss A. R. Stevens C.S.M.M.G.

C. Clerical Staff :—

Chief Clerk :—

R. M. Lawson*

Chief Clerk, School Medical Department :—

E. T. Perkins.

Steward City Hospital :—

F. J. Barrett.

Senior Clerks :—

G. R. Smith	....	....	Tuberculosis Dispensary
Miss O. May	....	....	Infectious Diseases
F. J. Thorning	....	...	Statistics, General Public Health
L. P. Howell	....	....	City Hospital
C. L. Marsh	....	....	Sanitary Inspection
Mrs. H. Leaver	....	....	City Hospital Almoner
Miss E. May	....	....	Maternity & Child Welfare
H. Chambers	....	....	Venereal Diseases

¶ 23 Clerks and Typists.

A part-time Veterinary Surgeon acts for the Corporation.

The Public Analyst, Mr. T. Tickle, F.I.C., of Exeter.

There are two Vaccination Officers in the City.

* Sanitary Inspector's Certificate.

† Meat Inspector's Certificate.

‡ Sanitary Science Certificate.

§ Health Visitor's Certificate.

|| Certificate of Central Midwives' Board.

¶ Including staff at institutions, hospitals, etc.

° State Registered.

TO THE LORD MAYOR, ALDERMEN AND COUNCILLORS
OF THE CITY OF PLYMOUTH.

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report upon the Health Services of the City for the year 1937.

The resident population of the City as estimated by the Registrar-General for 1937 is 210,460, an increase of 4,000 over the previous year.

The infantile mortality rate was 45.88 per 1,000 live births which is the lowest recorded rate for Plymouth and compares very favourably with the rate of 66 for the total County Boroughs of England and Wales. The infantile mortality rate is often regarded as a reliable index of the general health conditions of the district.

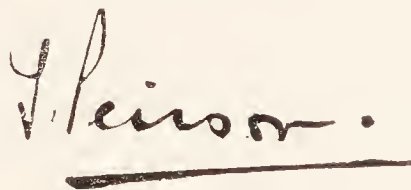
Two unusual duties were undertaken by the Department during the year, viz., the preparation of evidence on health and housing matters for the City Boundary Extension Bill and the commencement of the organisation of the Casualties' Service of the Council's Air Raid Precautions Scheme.

The former is now successfully completed, although arrangements are now to be made for the taking over of the added area.

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of recording my appreciation of the loyal work of my Staff.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

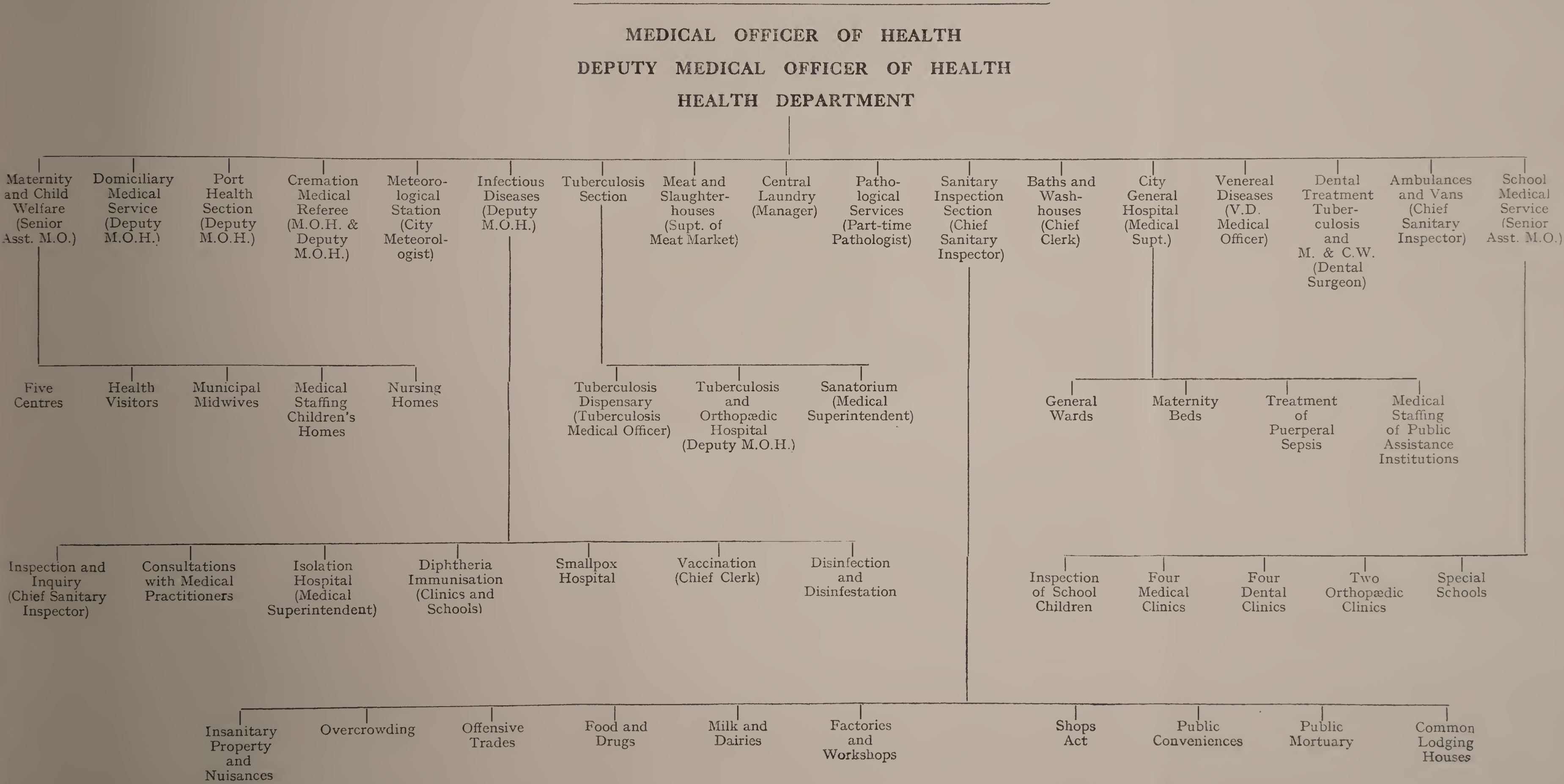
A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'J. Leeson', with a horizontal line underneath.

Medical Officer of Health.

TOWN HALL, STONEHOUSE,
PLYMOUTH.

June, 1938.

TABLE SHOWING THE SECTIONS OF WORK CARRIED OUT UNDER THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.



Statistical and Social Conditions of
the Area

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in acres)	5,711 (land and inland water)
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population (mid-1937)	210,460
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Books	38,269
Rateable value	£1,747,739
Sum represented by a Penny rate	£6,988

Social Conditions, including the chief industries carried on in the area, and the extent of unemployment:—
Unemployed persons in the City—

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
December, 1937 ...	5,567	899	111	194	6,771
December, 1936 ...	6,354	1,022	163	208	7,747
December, 1935 ...	7,157	1,057	214	230	8,658
December, 1934 ...	7,996	1,186	195	120	9,497

It will be seen that the figures for unemployed persons are again materially reduced and show a steady decline for the last four years. The decrease in the unemployment register is analogous to the increase in the numbers of those employed in H.M. Dockyard. The demand for building trades operatives is brisk.

The chief industries situated within the City are H.M. Dockyard, together with other Government (Naval and Military Barracks) establishments, building, Docks, including shipping of imports and exports, engineering, timber importing and extensive saw mills, ship and boat building, brass foundries, fishing, flour mills, breweries and distilleries, catering for visitors during the summer season and distributive trades for the South-Western peninsula.

The following table is taken from “A Social Survey of Plymouth” being a report of a survey undertaken by a Committee with Lord Astor as Chairman:—

Percentage of all persons employed in occupations named—						
<i>Retail</i>			<i>Hotel Boarding</i>			
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<i>Distribution</i>	<i>Dockyard</i>	<i>Services</i>	<i>Transport</i>	<i>Local Authority</i>	<i>Domestic Service House Restaurant</i>
25.2	20.8	17.9	14.3	9.1	6.1	5.6 1.0

Live Births—	Total	M	F	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population.....14.6
Legitimate	2,937	1,488	1,449	
Illegitimate	136	73	63	
	—————	—————	—————	
	3,075	1,561	1,512	

Stillbirths—

Legitimate	111	62	49	Rate per 1,000 total
Illegitimate	7	3	4	(live and still births)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	.....36.97

118 65 53

=====

Deaths—	2,749	1,391	1,358	Death rate per 1,000
				of the estimated
				resident population
				.....12.79

Deaths from Puerperal causes (headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar-General's short list):—

				<i>Rate</i>
				<i>per 1,000 total</i>
				<i>(live and still)</i>
				<i>Births.</i>
No. 29.	Puerperal sepsis	...	7	2.19
No. 30.	Other puerperal causes	...	10	3.13
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	Total	...	17	5.32
			<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Death-rate of Infants under one year of age:—

All infants per 1,000 live births	...	...	45.88
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births			45.96
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births			44.1
Deaths from cancer (all ages)	...	...	343
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	1
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	3
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)		...	4
Marriages	...	...	1,977
No. of uninhabited houses in the City on 31st Dec., 1937			404
Persons in receipt of Poor Law relief (December 31st, 1937)—			

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Children.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Persons receiving Out-door Relief	1,324	2,301	1,154	4,779
Children boarded-out	...	...	40	40
Children in the Children's Homes	1	—	89	90
Persons in Ford House Institution	145	103	—	248
Casuals at the East Stonehouse				
Institution	...	...	...	...
Institution	40	—	—	40
Persons in Institutions outside				
Plymouth who are chargeable				
to the City	...	...	...	...
	17	19	34	70

5,267

ACREAGE AND POPULATION—WARDS—1931 CENSUS.

	<i>Acreage (Land and Inland Water).</i>	<i>Persons.</i>	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Persons per Acre.</i>
City of Plymouth	5711	208182	102196	105986	36.5
Wards—					
Charles	137	10851	4842	6009	79.2
Compton	380	7610	3260	4350	20.0
Drake's	113	9644	4515	5129	85.3
Ford	157	9779	4603	5176	62.3
Friary	193	10888	5180	5708	56.4
Keyham	357	14271	8996	5275	40.0
Laira	321	11703	5354	6349	36.5
Molesworth ...	312	14123	6649	7474	45.3
Mount Edgcumbe	180	10024	5112	4912	55.7
Mutley	265	8472	3544	4928	32.0
Nelson	249	11047	5419	5628	44.4
Pennycross ...	585	13268	6148	7120	22.6
St. Andrew's ...	179	7719	3478	4241	43.1
St. Aubyn	268	14944	8723	6221	55.8
St. Budeaux ...	960	6029	3073	2956	6.3
St. Peter's	105	11605	5601	6004	110.5
Stoke	433	6797	3036	3761	15.7
Sutton	297	9301	4646	4655	31.3
Valletort	87	8814	4484	4330	101.3
Vintry	133	11293	5533	5760	84.9

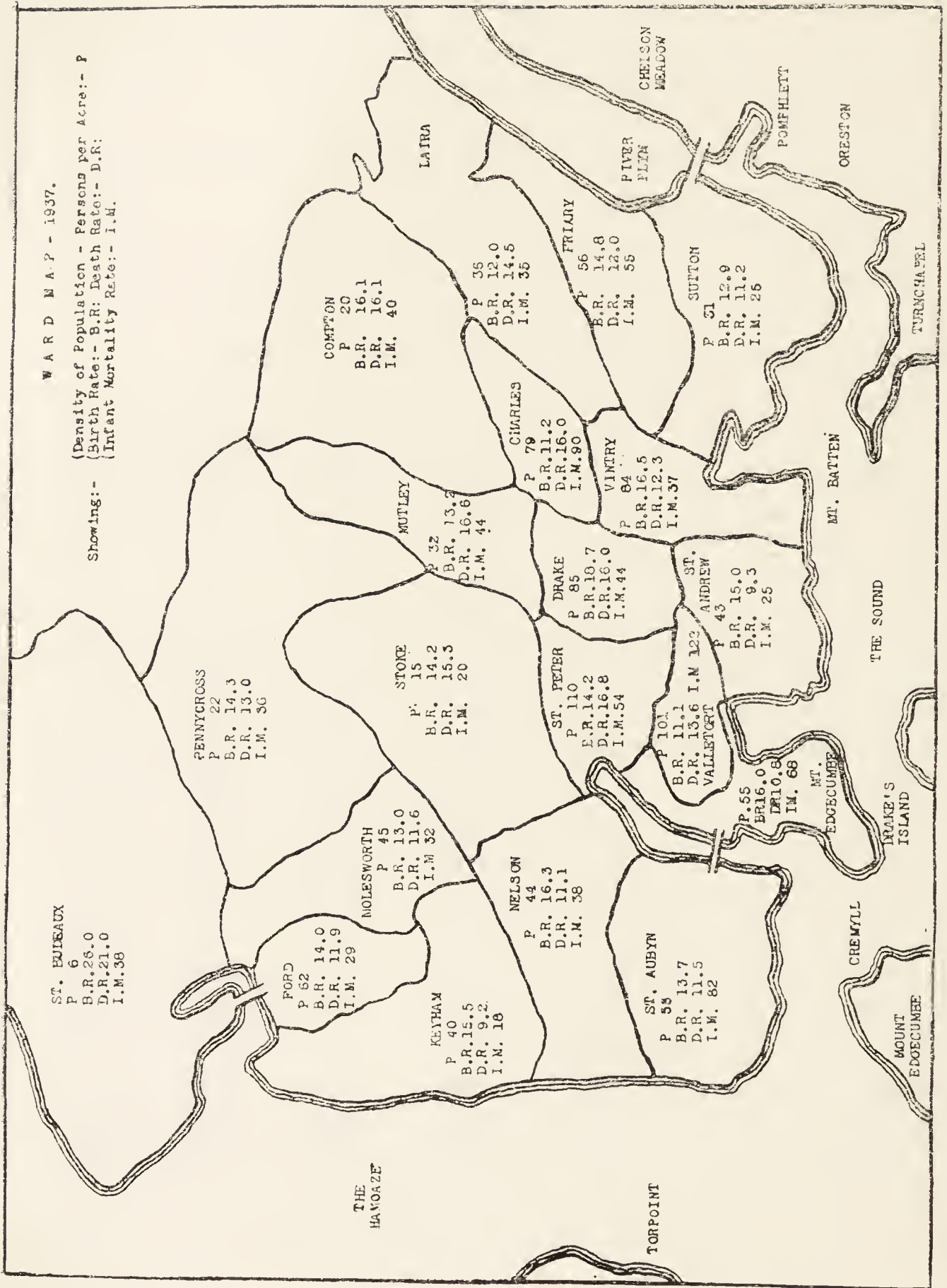


TABLE SHOWING THE POPULATION, BIRTH-RATES, DEATH-RATES, ZYMOTIC DEATH-RATES, MATERNAL MORTALITY, Etc., IN 18 LARGE TOWNS FOR THE YEAR 1937.

NAME OF TOWN.	Population as estimated by the Registrar General Mid-1937	Compara- bility Factor	Per 1,000 Population		Death Rate as adjusted by Factor	DEATH RATES PER 1,000 POPULATION FROM—									Tuberculosis		Infantile Mortality Rate	MATERNAL MORTALITY (per 1,000 Total Births)		
			Birth Rate	Crude Death Rate		Small- pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Typhoid and Para- typhoid	Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	Influenza	Pulmonary	Other Forms	From Sepsis		From Other Causes	Total	
1. BIRMINGHAM ...	1,029,700	1.10	16.3	11.7	12.9	—	0.07	0.01	0.03	0.08	—	0.08	0.40	0.72	0.08	60.0	0.74	2.22	2.96	
2. BRADFORD ...	289,510	1.00	13.85	14.74	14.74	—	0.01	0.01	0.04	0.17	0.01	0.11	0.48	0.65	0.12	70.0	0.95	1.67	2.62	
3. BRISTOL ...	415,100	0.98	14.46	11.44	11.21	—	0.004	0.009	0.04	0.02	0.002	0.022	0.25	0.67	0.13	46.16	1.12	2.41	3.53	
4. CARDIFF ...	220,200	1.06	15.4	12.6	13.3	—	0.05	0.009	0.03	0.09	0.009	0.08	0.22	0.82	0.17	64.7	0.85	2.82	3.67	
5. COVENTRY ...	204,700	1.21	15.7	10.44	12.63	—	0.02	—	0.03	0.034	0.004	0.09	0.36	0.59	0.15	48.5	0.30	2.76	2.96	
6. EDINBURGH ...	466,817	—	15.8	14.0	13.8	—	0.03	0.02	0.14	0.07	—	0.07	0.64	0.61	0.16	70.0	1.17	3.38	4.55	
7. GLASGOW ...	1,119,863	—	19.8	14.6	16.4	—	0.023	0.028	0.254	0.105	0.004	—	0.451	0.849	0.215	104.0	2.07	2.89	4.96	
8. KINGSTON-ON-HULL	319,400	1.10	18.2	12.6	13.8	—	0.13	0.01	0.02	0.18	—	0.19	0.37	0.92	0.20	77.1	0.83	1.65	2.48	
9. LEEDS ...	491,880	1.07	14.80	13.36	14.30	—	—	0.01	0.04	0.09	0.01	—	0.37	0.72	0.11	67.0	0.79	1.45	2.24	
10. LEICESTER ...	262,900	1.02	14.48	12.46	12.71	—	0.04	—	0.04	0.08	—	0.08	0.45	0.82	0.14	62.52	1.27	—	1.27	
11. LIVERPOOL ...	836,300	1.15	19.3	13.2	15.2	—	0.14	0.01	0.14	0.17	0.02	0.20	0.26	0.79	0.13	82.0	0.58	1.73	2.31	
12. MANCHESTER ...	736,500	1.14	14.31	13.52	15.41	—	0.06	0.01	0.07	0.12	—	0.11	0.40	0.88	0.15	76.16	1.34	2.85	4.19	
13. NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE	290,400	1.13	16.5	13.3	15.03	—	0.05	—	0.09	0.08	—	0.28	0.35	0.93	0.19	91.0	1.00	3.21	4.21	
14. NOTTINGHAM ...	278,800	1.03	15.96	13.44	13.84	—	0.08	—	0.03	0.03	0.01	0.18	0.43	0.84	0.15	80.0	0.87	1.95	2.82	
15. PLYMOUTH ...	210,460	0.98	14.6	13.06	12.79	—	0.004	0.004	0.01	0.08	—	0.019	0.16	0.69	0.07	45.88	2.19	3.13	5.32	
16. PORTSMOUTH ...	256,200	0.99	14.88	11.50	11.38	—	0.02	0.02	0.04	0.05	0.01	0.08	0.22	0.55	0.07	43.81	—	1.51	1.51	
17. SHEFFIELD ...	518,200	1.13	15.365	12.528	14.157	—	0.015	—	0.014	0.083	—	0.050	0.519	0.685	0.114	55	1.57	1.81	3.37	
18. STOKE-ON-TRENT ...	278,200	1.22	16.7	13.1	16.0	—	0.04	0.026	0.062	0.117	—	0.161	0.510	0.799	0.139	81.0	0.84	3.75	4.59	

[illegible]

CLIMATOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS.

TAKEN AT PLYMOUTH HOE DURING THE YEAR 1937.

	1937	1936	<i>Average.</i>
<i>Temperature—</i>			
Maximum ...	81.1 (Aug 6)	78.2 (August 31)	—
Minimum ...	25.8 (Feb. 28)	29.0 (Feb. 4)	—
Mean ...	51.8	51.5	51.0
Daily Range ...	11.0	10.7	10.8
Relative Humidity ...	81%	80%	84%
<i>Earth Temperature—</i>			
Earth 1 ft. deep ...	52.8	52.6	52.0
Earth 4 ft. deep ...	53.2	53.7	52.2
Minimum on Grass ...	17.5 (Mar. 24)	23.2 (Dec. 13)	—
<i>Sea Temperature—</i>			
Mean ...	54.3	53.2	52.9
<i>Rainfall—</i>			
Total during Year ...	41.36"	36.53"	36.34"
Greatest daily fall ...	0.97" (Oct. 24)	1.11" (Feb. 9)	—
Number wet days ...	184	183	190
<i>Sunshine—</i>			
Total hours ...	1549.9	1562.7	1668.7
Highest daily amount	14.2 (May 31)	14.4 (June 25)	—
Sunless days ...	67	62	61
<i>Wind—</i>			
Prevailing direction	S.S.W.	S.S.W.	S.W.
Highest velocity ... (Gust)	73 m.p.h.	71 m.p.h.	—

General Provision of Health Services

General Provision of Health Services

Laboratory Facilities.

The following tables show the bacteriological and pathological work carried out for the City at the

Prince of Wales's (Greenbank) Hospital :—

Briefly, the nature of these examinations is as follows :—

Sputums for T.B.	...	...	...	...	2386
Swabs for Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	6506
Rats for Plague	...	...	...	...	52
Bacteriological counts on Milks, Shellfish, Waters, Cream	...	...	...	...	1156
Hairs for Ringworm	...	...	...	...	87
Bacteriological examinations for various Infectious Diseases	...	...	...	...	451
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	39
For Enteric	...	...	...	...	70
Others	...	...	...	...	9
Animal Inoculations	...	...	...	...	61
V.D. Examinations	...	...	...	...	7326
					<hr/> 18143 <hr/>

As compared with 18,192 in 1936.

Further examinations, as below, were made for the City Hospital :—

Sputums for T.B.	...	...	...	...	714
Microscopical and other exams. of Morbid Tissues	...	...	...	...	249
Bacteriological Examinations	...	...	...	...	1614
Blood counts	...	...	...	...	1242
Biochemical Examinations	...	...	...	...	1955
Wassermanns and Kahns	...	...	...	...	1611
For Gonococci	...	...	...	...	57
Zondek Ascheims	..	..	...	...	44
Agglutinations	...	...	...	...	34
Miscellaneous	...	...	..	...	32
					<hr/> 7552 <hr/>

**Ambulance
Facilities.**

Cases of infectious diseases are removed by the two motor ambulances of the Public Health Department. Non-infectious cases, including street accidents maternity patients and tuberculosis patients, are dealt with by the Plymouth and District Branch of the St. John Ambulance Association, which possesses eight motor ambulances and provides an adequate service.

**Home
Nursing.**

Two voluntary associations undertake nursing in the home—namely, the Three Towns Nursing Association and the Alexandra Nursing Association. They do not visit cases of infectious disease, but the Three Towns Nursing Association receives a grant of £75 per annum from the City Council for nursing certain cases of tuberculosis. A fee of one shilling per visit is also paid to this Association in respect of cases recommended by the Public Health Department, mainly infants suffering from ophthalmia neonatorum.

During 1937, I am informed that, for the purpose of general district nursing, the total number of visits made by the Three Towns Nursing Association was 46,259, and by the Alexandra Nursing Association 4,176. The former Association operates a provident scheme on a contributory basis for home nursing service.

**Clinic and
Treatment
Centres.**

1. *Infant Welfare Centres.*
Town Hall, Stonehouse—4 sessions weekly.
Beaumont Hut—5 sessions weekly.
Devonport Park Centre—2 sessions weekly.
Wolseley Hall Centre, Swilly—2 sessions weekly.
St. Budeaux Clinic—1 session weekly.
2. *Specialist Aural Clinic* (pre-School and School Children).
Princess Square School Medical Clinic—1 session fortnightly
3. *Specialist Ophthalmic Clinic* (pre-School and School Children).
Princess Square School Medical Clinic—4 sessions weekly.
4. *Ante-Natal Clinics.*
Town Hall, Stonehouse—2 sessions weekly.
Beaumont Hut—2 sessions weekly.
Devonport Park Centre—2 sessions weekly.
Wolseley Hall Centre, Swilly—2 sessions weekly.
City Hospital—2 sessions weekly.

5. *Post-Natal Clinic.*
City Hospital—1 session fortnightly.
6. *Consultant Obstetric Clinic.*
City Hospital—1 session weekly.
7. *Tuberculosis Dispensary.*
Beaumont House Dispensary—
Adults, 2 afternoon sessions weekly.
Adults, 1 evening session weekly.
Children, 1 session weekly.
Contacts, 1 session weekly.
Special treatment, 2 sessions weekly.
Prince of Wales's Hospital (Devonport Section), 1 session weekly.
8. *Treatment Centre (Venereal Diseases).*
City Hospital, Greenbank, Plymouth.
For Males—4 sessions weekly (irrigation daily).
For Females—4 sessions weekly.
9. *Orthopædic Clinic.*
Mount Gold Hospital—1 session weekly.
10. *Diphtheria Immunisation Clinic.*
Stonehouse Town Hall—1 session weekly.
Devonport Park Centre—1 session weekly.
Beaumont Hut—1 session weekly.
11. *Dental Clinic.*
Beaumont House—Daily.

Hospitals. *City (General) Hospital.* The Council and the Ministry of Health approved the layout plans of the scheme of reconstruction and extension of the City (General) Hospital. Many of the existing buildings are very old and unsuitable for the use of sick persons.

The new accommodation to be built will contain 300 beds for general cases, 35 beds for maternity and ante-natal cases, 40 for sick children, 10 for puerperal sepsis and 12 for venereal diseases. In wards to be retained 168 beds will be accommodated. The scheme also includes new administration and kitchen block, reception, out-patients, ante-natal clinic, V.D. clinic and X-Ray departments. Provision is to be made during construction whereby an additional 60 beds could be obtained if necessary later by adding a further storey.

The first block to be erected is the Maternity and ante-natal Clinic, and the plans for these have been approved by the Minister of Health. It is hoped to commence this work during the summer of 1938. The total estimated cost of the whole scheme is £225,000.

It is not proposed to re-accommodate the nursery for healthy children under three years of age in the hospital. The buildings at present used for this purpose are to be demolished, and the Council is considering the question of alternative accommodation.

Swilly Isolation Hospital. A new block of 10 single cubicles was opened in May, 1938, under the arrangement whereby the Council guaranteed the admission of 13 cases from Saltash Borough, St. Germans Rural District Council and Torpoint Urban District Council. There are now 30 single cubicles in three blocks, and it is becoming increasingly recognised that single-room accommodation is very valuable in the treatment of infectious diseases.

Prince of Wales's Hospital. During the year the Prince of Wales's Hospital approached the Council with a request for financial assistance. After joint consultation between representatives of the Council and the Hospital Committee, and an examination by the City Treasurer of the financial position of the Hospital, the City Council decided to offer to the Prince of Wales's Hospital during the financial year 1938-39 a grant of approximately £3,500, subject to an agreement to provide (*inter alia*) that—

- (i) the question of the necessity for and the amount of such financial assistance shall be subject to annual revision by the Council ;
- (ii) the Hospital Board of Management shall not, without the prior approval of the Council, increase or diminish accommodation or facilities provided for patients or staff so as to effect the financial position of the Hospital ;
- (iii) the Council shall be adequately represented on the Board of Management of the Hospital ; and
- (iv) the accounts of the Hospital shall be submitted to the Council in respect of each year during which a grant is made.

This offer of the City Council has not yet been accepted, owing, it is understood, to the fact that the Devon and Cornwall County

Councils, parts of whose areas are served by the hospital, have not yet come to definite decisions regarding similar approaches made by the Prince of Wales's Hospital Committee.

Poor Law

Medical

Out-Relief

The following table shows the work done by the

District Medical Officers (part-time) during the

year 1937 :—

<i>District.</i>					<i>No. of visits to Patients' Homes.</i>	<i>Attendances at Surgery during the year.</i>
1	(From 15-9-37)...	...			148	894
2	...	...	...	...	423	2142
3	...	...	...	...	408	2005
4	...	...	...	...	620	2106
5	...	...	...	...	485	1292
6	...	...	...	...	1009	1182
7	...	...	...	...	659	423
8	...	...	...	...	566	1141
9	...	...	...	...	625	713
Totals					4918	11898

So far as Ford House is concerned, a medical officer from the City Hospital visits the Public Assistance Institution daily.

The Stoke House Children's Home is attended by a medical officer of the maternity and child welfare department and the Scattered Homes by a member of the school medical staff.

Maternity and Child Welfare

Maternity and Child Welfare

REPORT OF SENIOR ASSISTANT MEDICAL OFFICER.

Births.

The live birth-rate for 1937 is 14.6 per 1,000 of the estimated population. This is 0.2 lower than the 1936 figure, and also 0.3 lower than the 1937 figure for England and Wales, which is 14.9. The actual number of live births was 12 more than in the previous year, but as against this the estimated population increased by 4,060. This is the lowest birth-rate yet recorded for the Three Towns since the amalgamation in 1914.

		<i>Notified.</i>	<i>Registered.</i>	<i>Allocated.</i>
Total live births (legitimate and illegitimate)	...	3324	3334	3073
Total stillbirths (legitimate and illegitimate)	...	132	132	118
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total births	...	3456	3466	3191
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Illegitimate births: live	...	78	140	136
stillbirths	...	5	7	7
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	...	83*	147	143
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

* Only 83 of the illegitimate births were notified as such.

No. of births notified by doctors and parents	536
No. of births notified by midwives ...	2920
	<hr/>
	3456
	<hr/>

PLACE OF CONFINEMENT.

Own home by municipal midwife	...	...	...	86
Own home by municipal midwife with doctor	...	...	...	30
Own home by private midwife	...	...	...	693
Own home by private midwife with doctor	...	...	...	267
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife	...	...	...	346
Own home by T.T.N.A. district midwife with doctor	...	...	...	53
Own home by Alexandra district midwife	...	...	...	112
Own home by Alexandra district midwife with doctor	...	...	...	53
T.T.N.A. maternity home by midwife	...	...	...	258
T.T.N.A. maternity home by midwife with doctor	...	...	...	134
Alexandra maternity home by midwife	...	...	...	388
Alexandra maternity home by midwife with doctor	...	...	...	123
City Hospital by midwife	...	...	...	414
City Hospital by midwife with doctor	...	...	...	62
Private nursing homes—doctor	...	...	...	136
Private nursing homes—midwife	...	...	...	4
Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	92
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank	...	...	...	50
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Devonport	...	...	...	1
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Lockyer Street	...	...	...	2
Not known	...	...	...	152
TOTAL				3456

PLYMOUTH BIRTH RATES FROM 1914.

<i>Year.</i>		<i>Rate.</i>	<i>Year.</i>		<i>Rate.</i>
1914	...	23.7	1924	...	18.16
1915	...	19.9	1925	...	18.1
1916	...	21.6	1926	...	17.2
1917	...	19.3	1927	...	16.5
1918	...	19.1	1928	...	17.0
1919	...	21.6	1929	...	16.5
1920	...	26.3	1930	...	15.9
1921	...	21.2	1931	...	16.4
1922	...	19.6	1932	...	15.59
1923	...	19.4	1933	...	15.67
Average for 10 years		21.17	Average for 10 years		16.7
	<i>Year.</i>			<i>Rate.</i>	
	1934	...	...	15.7	
	1935	...	...	15.05	
	1936	...		14.8	
	1937	...		14.6	

1936 BIRTH RATES FOR THE TEN LARGEST TOWNS.

London	...	...	...	13.6
Glasgow	...	...	...	19.7
Birmingham	...	...	...	15.8
Liverpool	...	...	...	20.1
Manchester	...	...	...	14.7
Sheffield	...	...	...	15.2
Leeds	...	...	...	15.0
Edinburgh	...	...	...	15.9
Bristol	...	...	...	12.3
Hull	...	...	...	18.4
The 1935 birth-rate for England and Wales was				14.7
The 1936 birth-rate for England and Wales was				14.8
The 1937 birth-rate for England and Wales was				14.9

Stillbirths. The stillbirth rate is 36.97 per 1,000 allocated births, and 0.56 per 1,000 of the population. This is 0.02 per 1,000 less than last year's rate and 0.04 below the rate for England and Wales, which is 0.60 per 1,000 of the population.

STILLBIRTH RATE.

Year	England and Wales		Plymouth	
	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population	Per 1,000 births	Per 1,000 population
1932	41.0	—	45.0	—
1933	41.0	—	37.5	—
1934	40.0	—	35.5	—
1935	41.0	0.62	38.8	0.62
1936	—	0.61	37.72	0.58
1937	—	0.60	33.84	0.56

The following summary is based on the investigation of 133 cases:—

<i>Age of mother.</i>				
15–19 years, inclusive	...	...	...	3
20–24 " "	...	...	...	35
25–29 " "	...	...	...	32
30–34 " "	...	...	...	26
35–39 " "	...	...	...	20
40 and over	...	...	...	6
Not known	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 123

<i>Parity.</i>				
1st pregnancy	...	...	...	52*
2nd " "	...	...	...	24
3rd " "	...	...	...	15
4th " "	...	...	...	14
5th " "	...	...	...	3
6th " "	...	...	...	5
7th " "	...	...	...	3
8th " "	...	...	...	2
9th " "	...	...	...	1
13th " "	...	...	...	3
Not known	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 123

* Note high proportion of first pregnancies.

<i>Duration of pregnancy.</i>				
40 weeks	...	...	...	68
36–39 " "	...	...	...	26
32–35 " "	...	...	...	10
28–31 " "	...	...	...	16
Post mature	...	...	...	3
				<hr/> 123

<i>Place of delivery.</i>				
Own home, B.B.A.	...	...	...	6
Own home with doctor and midwife	...	...	...	24
Own home with midwife only	...	...	...	20
City Hospital (booked cases, 9)	...	...	...	30
Maternity Homes	...	...	...	35
Nursing Homes	...	...	...	4
Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	3
In street	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 123

<i>Nature of delivery.</i>				
Spontaneous (12 B.B.A.)	...	...	...	78
Instrumental	...	...	...	30
Bimanual	...	...	...	12
Cæsarean	...	...	...	1
Induction	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 123 <hr/>
<i>Presentation.</i>				
L.O.A. or R.O.A.	...	...	...	89
L.O.P., R.O.P. and P.O.P.	...	...	...	6
Breech	...	...	...	18
Shoulder	...	...	...	1
Transverse	...	...	...	4
Footling	...	...	...	1
Hand	...	...	...	1
Face	...	...	...	3
				<hr/> 123 <hr/>
<i>Standard of living.</i>				
Fair to very good	...	...	...	86
Poor	...	...	...	37
				<hr/> 123 <hr/>
<i>Pre-natal supervision.</i>				
By doctor	...	...	...	45
By midwife only	...	...	...	12
Clinic—M. & C.W.	...	...	...	21
City Hospital	...	...	...	9
Alexandra	...	...	...	15
T.T.N.A.	...	...	...	14
None	...	...	...	3
Military Families' Hospital	...	...	...	3
Not known	...	...	...	1
				<hr/> 123 <hr/>
<i>Causes.</i>				
Toxæmia	...	...	...	14
Placenta prævia	...	...	...	4
A.P.H. (not classified)	...	...	...	2
Abnormalities of cord—				
Prolapse	...	...	...	7
Round neck	...	...	...	3
				<hr/> 10 <hr/>
Malpresentation—				
P.O.P.	...	...	...	2
Impacted shoulders	...	...	...	1
Brow	...	...	...	1
Transverse	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 6 <hr/>
Disproportion	...	...	...	9
Post-maturity	...	...	...	1
Rapid labour (no attendant, 7)	...	...	...	9
Fœtal deformity—				
Anencephaly	...	...	...	2
Hydrocephaly	...	...	...	4
Spina bifida	...	...	...	1
Monster	...	...	...	2
				<hr/> 9 <hr/>

Following influenza	...	...	...	2
„ a fall	...	...	...	6
Syphilis	...	...	...	2
Twin	...	...	...	3
Diabetes mother	...	...	...	1
Epilepsy mother	...	...	...	1
Placental insufficiency	...	...	...	4
Uterine inertia	...	...	...	1
Prolonged labour (unclassified)	...	...	...	3
Multiple fibroids	...	...	...	1
Prematurity	...	...	...	2
Hydramnios (associated with)	...	...	...	4
V.D.H. mother	...	...	...	2
No obvious cause	...	...	...	27
				<hr/> 123 <hr/>

Additional information.

Labour prolonged over 24 hours	...	...	in 6 cases.
History of previous stillbirth	...	...	in 14 „
Maceration	...	...	in 44 „
Fœtus well developed and in good condition at term (B.B A. 5)	...	...	in 48 „
L.O.A. and R.O.A.	...	20	
R.O.P. and P.O.P.	...	4	
Breech	...	6	
Brow	...	1	
Impacted shoulders	...	1	
Cord round neck	...	2	
Prolapsed cord	...	6	
Placenta prævia	...	2	
Transverse	...	1	
Known to be illegitimate	...	...	in 1 case.

Infant Mortality.

(See Table on page 49A, and Chart on page 49.)

Number of deaths under one year: 141 (includes one inward transfer).

Infant Mortality rate: 45.88 per 1,000 allocated live births.

The following table shows the relative proportion of deaths due to infectious, respiratory and digestive diseases since 1930:—

Year	Infectious Diseases	Respiratory Diseases	Diseases of Digestive Tract
1930	5.0 per cent	22.0 per cent	11.0 per cent
1931	2.6 per cent	30.0 per cent	6.0 per cent
1932	8.0 per cent	18.0 per cent	6.8 per cent
1933	5.3 per cent	22.8 per cent	4.2 per cent
1934	12.0 per cent	19.0 per cent	6.9 per cent
1935	3.8 per cent	15.8 per cent	9.28 per cent
1936	11.1 per cent	26.9 per cent	7.6 per cent
1937	2.8 per cent	25.5 per cent	4.2 per cent

Deaths from neo-natal and pre-natal causes account for one-half of the total. Deaths from infectious diseases and diseases of the digestive tract are relatively few, but the death-rate from the respiratory group remains high. It must, however, be borne in mind that a number of deaths from respiratory diseases are primarily associated with infectious diseases such as whooping cough and measles.

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate:—

<i>Year</i>	<i>England and Wales</i>	<i>Plymouth</i>
1933	32	33·1
1934	31	28·4
1935	30	33·6
1936	30·16	25·1
1937	—	21·4

Total number of deaths under one month: 66, i.e., 46·8 per cent., an increase of 1·8 per cent. on last year's figure. The neo-natal mortality rate is 21·4 per 1,000 live births. This is a very low figure, as the 1936 figure for England and Wales was 30.

The illegitimate infant mortality rate is 44·1 per 1,000 illegitimate live births, less than half last year's figure.

	<i>Legitimate.</i>	<i>Illegitimate.</i>
No. of births	2937	136
No. of deaths	135	6
Infant mortality per 1,000	45·97	44·1

Infantile Diarrhoea. As a perusal of the previous section will indicate, deaths from diseases of the digestive tract are now relatively unimportant, and our attention and preventive measures should be concentrated more on conditions predisposing to diseases of the respiratory tract.

The number of cases notified was 8 ; of these, 3 were very mild, 1 moderately severe (a breast-fed child aged six months and the only breast-fed child in the series), and 4 were severe, including 3 deaths.

The babies who died, aged 3 weeks, 5 weeks and 5 months respectively, were being fed on liquid cows' milk, and one developed the diarrhoea while a patient in the City Hospital.

There were four deaths from diarrhoea and enteritis in children under one year, and no deaths from these causes in children aged one to two years. The death-rate is only 1·3 per 1,000 births, which compares very favourably with a rate of 5·7 for England and Wales.

DEATHS OF CHILDREN BETWEEN 1 and 5 YEARS OLD.

(See table on page 6B.)

The following table shows that there has been a satisfactory decrease in the number of deaths of children between one and five years old during the past three years as compared with a similar period 10 years ago.

	1-2 YEARS OLD					2-5 YEARS OLD						
	1925	1926	1927	1935	1936	1937	1925	1926	1927	1935	1936	1937
Measles	1	7	1	3	2	-	1	3	-	1	2	-
Whooping cough	5	5	1	-	2	1	4	2	5	-	3	1
Diphtheria	1	1	-	3	1	1	3	17	8	8	15	7
Tuberculous diseases	4	4	1	1	2	4	8	4	8	6	6	2
Bronchitis and pneumonia	27	37	23	5	9	6	13	18	11	6	2	8
Other respiratory diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	2	-	-
Diarrhoea	6	7	4	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Other digestive diseases	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	4
Other causes	10	21	9	10	10	7	22	9	14	11	9	12
TOTALS	54	82	39	24	28	19	52	53	47	35	37	35
Total for 3 year period	175			71			152			107		

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No. Noti- fied	Where treated				Vision un- im- paired	Vision im- paired	Vision lost	Deaths
	Home	Royal Eye In- firmory	City Hospital	Matern- ity Homes				
17	6	1 I.P. } 3 O.P. } 4	4 I.P. } 1 O.P. } 5	2	14	2	1	—

Ten cases were notified by general practitioners, 4 by medical officers at Infant Welfare Centres, 2 from the Royal Eye Infirmary, and 1 from the City Hospital. The date of onset was on or under 4 days in 6 cases, from 7 to 10 days in 9 cases, and on or about the 14th day in 2 cases. Nine cases occurred on the district (private midwives 5, T.T.N.A. midwives 4), 4 in a maternity home, and 4 in the City Hospital.

Six cases were mild, 8 moderately severe, and 3 had very severe impairment or loss of vision. The following is a brief summary of the 3 cases where vision was impaired:—

Case 1.—Onset on third day at the Three Towns Maternity Home. Admitted to the City Hospital four days later. Vision lost in right eye and very seriously impaired in the left eye.

Case 2.—Onset on eighth day. T.T.N.A. district case. Parents refused hospital treatment, and later also refused treatment by the visiting nurse. The N.S.P.C.C. had to be asked to intervene. As a result, by the time adequate treatment was obtained vision was very seriously impaired in both eyes. Happily, a successful operation has since restored a fair amount of vision to one eye.

Case 3.—Onset on fourth day. Private midwife's case. Admitted to City Hospital as an in-patient on the seventh day, and later attended the Royal Eye Infirmary as an out-patient. Vision was seriously impaired in both eyes. In February, 1938, the child was admitted to the Royal Eye Infirmary for an operation, but died of broncho-pneumonia before the operation could be performed.

**Child Life
Protection.**

It is now permissible for local authorities to arrange to help with payments to foster-parents for the care of foster-children whose parents are unable to support them, but so far no such scheme has been adopted in Plymouth. It is very difficult to get a sufficient number of good foster-mothers, and a system whereby payments were guaranteed might help in attracting a better class of foster-parent.

All the necessary supervision is undertaken by the Health Visitors, who are also Child Life Protection officers.

Fifty-five foster-mothers or would-be foster-mothers were interviewed at the Town Hall in the course of the year, and 455 home visits were paid.

Foster-parents.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1937	...	...	74
New registrations during the year	...	...	17
			<hr/> 91
Removals from Register during the year	...	...	25
			<hr/>
On Register at end of year	...	...	66
			<hr/>
Notifications of change of address within Plymouth area			11

Foster-children.

No. on Register, 1st January, 1937	...	...	82
Notifications of children received during the year	...	...	39
			<hr/> 121

Removals from Register during the year—

Transfers to care of other foster-parents	...	8
Adopted	...	5
Over age	...	5
Returned to care of relatives	...	14
Removals to care of official organisations		8
Removals to outside areas	...	10
		<hr/>
Total removals from Register		50
		<hr/>
On Register at end of the year	...	71

Health Visiting. The staff consists of 12 Health Visitors and one Superintendent, whose work is entirely clinical and administrative.

Summary of visits paid during the year :—

Births	...	...	...	...	...	2926
1st year visits	...	...	...	...	...	8947
1st visits, 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	380
Re-visits, 1-5 years	...	...	...	...	...	22968
1st ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	...	535
Re-ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	...	542
Visits <i>re</i> infectious diseases	...	...	...	...	...	252
Child life protection visits	...	...	...	...	...	455
Miscellaneous visits	...	...	...	...	...	878
						<hr/> 37883 <hr/>

The 252 visits in connection with infectious diseases are made up as follows :—

Ophthalmia neonatorum visits	...	...	...	9
Discharging eyes	..	...	...	34
Whooping-cough	..	...	...	67
Measles	..	...	...	42
Chicken-pox	..	...	...	45
Puerperal pyrexia	..	...	...	3
Enteritis	..	...	...	12
Mumps	..	...	...	2
Cerebro-spinal meningitis	...	...	...	1
Pemphigus	...	...	...	1
Diphtheria contacts	...	...	...	36
				<hr/> 252 <hr/>

At the end of the year there were 11,605 children under five years of age for 12 Health Visitors to visit ; 2,840 being under one year. Eighty-seven sanitary defects were reported by Health Visitors.

Defective Children.

Of the children born in 1932, 17 were defective from birth and 54 became defective before reaching the age of five. This total is 33 less than that for the 1931-36 period group.

Data are summarised in the following table:—

DEFECTIVE CHILDREN, 1932-1937.

<i>Nature of defect</i>	<i>No. of cases</i>	<i>Cured</i>	<i>Improved</i>	<i>No improvement</i>	<i>No treatment</i>	<i>Still under treatment</i>
Rickets	29	13	15	1	3	1
Strabismus	22	—	20	2	2	20
Talipes	1	1	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis (Spine, 2; Glands, 1)	3	—	3	—	—	3
Mentally defective	5	—	5	—	—	1
Asthma	1	—	1	—	—	—
Cleft palate and hare lip	3	3	—	—	—	—
Deformity of hand	1	—	1	—	—	—
Deformity following injury	2	—	2	—	—	1
Haemophilia	1	—	—	1	—	1
Congenital heart...	1	—	1	—	—	1
Infantile paralysis	2	—	2	—	—	2

Infant Welfare Centres. The total number of sessions remains at thirty-three, but an afternoon infant welfare session was discontinued at Devonport Park Hut to enable an extra ante-natal session to be put on at Wolseley Hall. Unfortunately, this arrangement has given rise to considerable overcrowding at the two remaining infant welfare sessions at Devonport Park, and it is imperative that provision be made for reopening the closed clinic at an early date.

At the end of August our temporary premises at St. Budeaux had to be vacated by us to allow the Education Authority to take possession, and since then the infant welfare session has had to be held in premises which are not only unsuitable for the work, but definitely prejudicial to it. The need is therefore urgent for the new Centre which it is proposed to erect in that district.

Further facilities for Infant Welfare work are needed in other parts of the City ; for instance, a Centre is needed at Laira and one in the neighbourhood of Mutley Plain.

All the thirty-three weekly sessions are attended by one or more Health Visitors, and many also by voluntary workers.

Health Visitors have also attended 11 sessions of the Aural Clinic and 38 sessions of the Dental Clinic.

For a summary of the work done at Infant Welfare Centres, see table on page 31.

INFANT WELFARE CENTRES.

		Town Hall	Beaumont Hut	Devonport Hut	Wolseley Hall	St. Budeaux	Total
No. of sessions held	... ..	190	247	136	98	49	720
No. of babies entered on register	... ..	646 (349 1st)	860 (508 1st)	569 (314 1st)	420 (217 1st)	126 (76 1st)	2621 (1464 1st)
No. of children entered on register	... ..	442 (96 1st)	674 (91 1st)	406 (116 1st)	243 (55 1st)	126 (23 1st)	1891 (381 1st)
Total	... ..	1088	1534	975	663	252	4512
No. remaining on register on December 31st, 1937.							
Babies	... ..	261	396	225	162	64	1108*
Children	... ..	717	1072	685	478	165	3117
Total	... ..	978	1468	910	640	229	4225
No. of babies weighed and mothers advised		5257	8623	4079	3440	1204	22603
No. of children weighed and mothers advised		3802	4119	2685	2500	894	14000
Total	... ..	9059	12742	6764	5940	2098	36603
Doctors' consultations	... ..	3703	4072	3074	2386	971	14206
Average attendances per session	... ..	48	52	50	61	43	51
Dressings done	... ..	297	816	313	116	66	1608
Sewing classes held	... ..	43	45	45	—	—	133
Total attendances	... ..	488	744	247	—	—	1479
Health talks given	... ..						5
Attendances at clinics by Health Visitors	... ..						2611

* This represents 33% of the registered live births.

Diphtheria Immunisation. Diphtheria Immunisation at Maternity and Child Welfare Centres :—

1st attendances	...	...	...	573
Re-attendances	...	...	...	1961
				<hr/>
		Total	...	2534
				<hr/>

For further particulars, see table on page 83.

The use of A.P.T. as a prophylactic was continued throughout the year in two doses 0.1 c.c., followed three weeks later by 0.5 c.c., with a Schick test about five weeks after the second injection. The immediate results were excellent, as out of a total of 444 immunisations only 0.7 per cent. were positive on Schick testing. This corresponded very closely with the results of the previous year, when out of a total of 372 similar immunisations 0.6 per cent. were positive on Schick testing. In order to find out how long this immunity was being maintained 141 children were re-Schick tested approximately one year later, and 136 were found to be still negative and 5 positive. Thus by the end of one year 3.54 per cent. of those tested had reverted to the Schick positive state. Compared with results by other methods of immunisation, this can be regarded as quite a satisfactory state of affairs.

During the year 53 people were immunised with T.A.F. (three 1 c.c. injections at monthly intervals with a Schick test approximately five weeks after the third injection). Actually these 53 people were a somewhat selected group including five nurses aged 17 to 19, and several children who had re-acted rather severely to a 0.1 c.c. dose of A.P.T. and whose immunisation was therefore completed with T.A.F. Even making allowance for all this and for the small total number in the group, the percentage of positives is unduly high and compares adversely with the results obtained by the same method of immunisation in 1935, when out of a total of 687 only 1.2 per cent. were positive on Schick testing.

Nine children were immunised with T.A.F. Results: Negative, 8; Positive, 1.

The average percentage positive on Schick testing over all three groups was 3.8 per cent.

Primary Schicks:—64 primary Schicks were done, 37 being negative and 27 positive. In the following table these are arranged in age groups:—

<i>Under 5 yrs.</i>		<i>6-7 yrs.</i>		<i>8 yrs.</i>		<i>9 yrs.</i>		<i>10 yrs.</i>	
N.	P.	N.	P.	N.	P.	N.	P.	N.	P.
2	—	2	4	2	—	1	3	2	4

<i>11 yrs.</i>		<i>12 yrs.</i>		<i>13 yrs.</i>		<i>14 yrs.</i>		<i>Over 15 yrs.</i>	
N.	P.	N.	P.	N.	P.	N.	P.	N.	P.
4	3	2	3	2	3	2	—	18	7

Eighteen children who had had diphtheria were Schick tested, 11 being negative and 7 positive.

Three children contracted diphtheria before immunisation was completed: one died, and the other two were mild cases of K.L.B. otorrhœa. Three immunised children contracted diphtheria. In two cases recovery was uneventful, but the third, a few weeks after giving a negative Schick test, succumbed to an attack of laryngeal diphtheria with extensive formation of membrane in the larynx, death being due to the obstruction caused by the membrane and not to diphtheritic toxæmia. This latter type of case is fortunately extremely rare.

Nine children immunised in previous years with T.A.M. were re-Schick tested during 1937, and all were negative.

Dental Treatment. Cases requiring dental treatment are referred to the dental surgeon at Beaumont House. The following is a summary of the work done for the department:—

<i>Children.</i>					
Fillings and extractions	...	...	...	...	3
Fillings only	...	...	...	...	28
Extractions only	...	...	...	...	130
TOTAL				...	161

In 18 cases the parents paid the whole cost of treatment, and in 14 cases the parents paid part cost. The remainder were given free treatment.

Nursing and expectant mothers.

Scaling and treatment of gums	...	...	...	2
Scaling, treatment of gums, and fillings	...	...	...	2
Scaling, treatment of gums, fillings and extractions	...	...	...	20
Scaling, treatment of gums and extractions	...	...	...	6
Fillings only	...	...	...	3
Fillings and extractions	...	...	...	7
Extractions only	...	...	...	63
TOTAL				103

Number of persons supplied with dentures (extractions included in the above return)	...	...	...	44
Re-makes and repairs	...	...	...	3

In 13 cases the patients paid the whole cost of treatment, and in 58 the patients paid part cost. The remainder were granted free treatment (necessitous cases).

The total cost to the department amounted to £345 2s. 1d. The receipts were £94 18s. 0d. Under National Health Insurance rates the cost would have been £404 13s. 0d.

The following table shows the progress made since 1927 :—

Year	No. of cases dealt with for extractions, fillings, etc.		DENTURES (Extractions in preceding col.)	
	Children	Nursing and Expectant Mothers	Persons supplied	Repairs
1927	41	48	15	2
1928	41	69	28	—
1929	130	69	41	—
1930	146	88	55	—
1931	163	106	43	—
1932	185	197	55	16
1933	210	159	63	11
1934	191	152	66	10
1935	167	164	55	8
1936	167	128	56	1
1937	161	103	44	3

Orthopaedic Treatment.

Infant Welfare medical officers refer cases to the Orthopaedic Surgeon, and arrangements are then made for the prescribed treatment to be carried out.

In-patient treatment at Mount Gold Hospital:—

Remaining under treatment from 1936	...	...	...	7
1936 patients discharged in 1937	...	...	...	5
Transferred to Tuberculosis Department	...	...	...	1
Admitted in 1937 :				
New cases	...	...	...	17
Old cases re-admitted	...	...	...	7
			—	24
Discharged in 1937 :				
New cases	...	...	...	9
Old cases re-admitted	...	...	...	4
			—	13
Under treatment at end of 1937	...	...	...	10

Average length of stay per in-patient for 1937: 112.4 days.

Total cost of treatment and appliances, etc.: £1,296 5s. 8d.

Out-patient treatment.

No. recommended: 44.

Ultra-Violet Light Clinics. No. of sessions held, 167. No. on Register, 180.
First attendances, 126. Total attendances, 3,346.

Average attendance, 20. The sessions are fewer in number than usual because the Clinic had to be closed for some time whilst building alterations were in progress in adjacent premises.

Rickets : 92 cases.

Treatment completed, 12 (cured, 7 ; much improved, 5).

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 28 (much improved, 20 ; improved, 8).

Ceased to attend after a few exposures, 28.

Still under treatment, 24 (much improved, 3 ; improving, 21).

Malnutrition : 2 cases.

Still attending, 1 (much improved).

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 1.

Sub-nutrition : 12 cases.

Treatment completed, 2 (much improved).

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 3 (improved, 3).

Ceased to attend after a few exposures, 2.

Still attending, 5 (all improving).

General Debility : 26 cases.

Treatment completed, 3 (all much improved).

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 6 (all improved).

Ceased to attend after a few exposures, 4.

Still attending, 13 (all improved).

Skin Diseases : 26 cases.

Treatment completed, 7. All cured. (Impetigo, 3 ; dermatitis of buttocks and face, 1 ; flexural dermatitis, 1 ; dermatitis of scalp, 1 ; dermatitis of umbilicus, 1.)

Still attending, 12.

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 7 (all improved).

Cervical Adenitis : 12 cases (all tuberculous).

Treatment completed, 4 (improved).

Still under treatment and improving, 6.

Ceased to attend before treatment completed, 2 (improved).

Miscellaneous : 10 cases, including—

1 discharging sinus in abdominal scar.

3 alopecia (all cured).

3 asthma. Improved, 2 ; still attending and improving, 1.

Ante-Natal.

An additional ante-natal session was opened at Wolseley Hall Centre on September 6th, 1937.

	<i>Town Hall</i>	<i>Beaumont Hut</i>	<i>Devonport Hut</i>	<i>Wolseley Hall</i>	<i>Total</i>
No. of sessions held	101	103	103	67	374
1st attend- ances { Pr. M. N.P.	60 171 17 } 248	69 187 12 } 268	78 150 13 } 241	35 130 4 } 169	242 638 46 } 926
Re-attendances ...	1240	1455	1043	737	4475
Post-natal attendances { 1st	19	6	28	24	77
re-	2	—	15	6	23
Miscellaneous { 1st	24	22	34	23	103
re-	14	13	30	15	72
Total attendances { 1st re-	291 1256 } 1547	296 1468 } 1764	303 1088 } 1391	216 758 } 974	1106 4570 } 5676
Average per session }	15.32	17.13	13.5	14.5	15.18
Consultations ...	1180	1268	1315	925	4688
No. of transfers from 1936 }	42	60	55	26	183
Total No. of women attending during 1937	290	328	296	195	1109

No. confined in 1937 ... 757*

No. aborted in 1937 ... 20

No. of above confined in City Hospital ... 152

No. referred to C.H. for A.N. treatment ... 24

No. confined T.T.N.A. (Home and District) ... 232

No. confined Alexandra (Home and District) ... 44

* Includes 28 stillbirths of which 21 were spontaneous.

Character of labour in 757 confinements:—

Spontaneous	...	...	...	...	...	645
Instrumental	...	...	...	...	...	59
Cæsarean section	...	...	...	...	...	8
Bimanual	...	...	....	...	...	10
Induction	...	...	...	...	...	4
Not known	...	...	...	...	...	31

Abnormalities found in cases attending for the first time in 1937:—

1.	Contracted pelvis—					
	Minor	...	...	...	...	30
	Major	...	...	...	...	8
2.	Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	128
3.	Toxæmia	...	...	...	...	39
4.	Syphilis	...	...	...	...	2
5.	Gonorrhœa	...	...	...	...	6
6.	Cardiac disease		...	...	...	11
7.	Respiratory diseases		...	...	...	27
8.	Carious teeth	...	...	...	...	327
9.	Profuse leucorrhœa		...	...	...	53

Abnormalities found on post-natal examination:—

No. of cases examined P.V.	...	...	...	36
Subinvolution	...	...	...	1
Prolapse of uterus	...	...	...	2
Cervical tears	...	...	...	2
Retroversion	...	...	...	5
Cystocele	...	...	...	4

Auxiliary Services.

Maternity Bags. No. lent, 9.

Accouchement sets sold at cost price or less, 30.

Home Helps.

Home Helps. During 1937 twenty-two women were employed as home helps and attended 104 cases at a cost to the City of £220 12s. 6d.

			£	s.	d.
Paid in wages	...	...	249	8	0
Amount recovered	...	...	28	15	6
			<hr/>		
			£220	12	6
			<hr/>		

This is a decrease of £74 6s. 0d. on the previous year's expenditure.

Supervision of Midwives.	Number notifying their intention to practice					81
	Ceased practice during the year ...					5
	Left district					2
	Left district after training ...					9
						—
						16
						—
	On Register at end of year					65
						==
	Municipal (including Asst. Supervisor of Midwives)					11
	In private practice					10
	T.T.N.A.					29
	Alexandra Maternity Home					9
	Wingfield Nursing Home					5
	Abbotsfield					1
						—
						65
						==

No. of cases attended by private midwives:—

One midwife had 152 cases, one 86, one 36, three 20-30, two 10-20, six under 10 cases, and up to October 21st one had 110 cases, one 88, one 85, one 67, one 54, three 30-40, and two 20-30 cases.

Approximately 69.2 per cent. of the notified births (district and institutional) were conducted by midwives only.

District cases attended by midwife	...	...	1237
District cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	...	...	403
*Institutional cases attended by midwife	...	...	1156
*Institutional cases attended by midwife acting as a maternity nurse	...	...	508
			<hr/>
			3304
			<hr/>

* Includes maternity and nursing homes and hospitals.

Medical help was sought by midwives in 709 cases, approximately 95 calls being for the child.

The following are the reasons given for seeking medical aid : —

Albuminuria	...	...	39	Unsatisfactory condition of			
Œdema	...	...	6	the mother—			
Fits	...	...	1	Ante-natal	...	...	48
Cardiac	...	...	2	Post-natal	...	...	20
Varicose veins	...	...	5	Retained membranes	...	...	6
Vaginal discharge	...	...	6	Adherent placenta	...	...	5
Hydramnios	...	...	5	Ruptured perineum	...	...	163
Contracted pelvis	...	...	5	Pain in leg	...	...	6
Malpresentation	...	...	23	Painful breast	...	...	9
Patient's request	...	...	2	Difficult micturition...	...	...	1
Fœtal distress	...	...	8	Rise of temperature	...	...	28
Maternal distress	...	...	3	Mental	...	...	2
Hæmorrhage—				Abdominal pains	...	...	3
Ante-partum	...	...	26	Skin conditions—			
Post-partum	...	...	8	Mother	...	...	1
Premature labour	...	...	7	Baby	...	...	2
Prolonged labour	...	...	135	Unsatisfactory condition of			
Difficult labour	...	...	2	infant ...	...	...	23
Occipito posterior	...	...	3	Deformity of infant	...	...	6
Breech	...	...	13	Feeble infant	...	...	24
Prolapse of cord	...	...	4	Phimosis	...	...	1
Uterine inertia	...	...	2	Tongue tie	...	...	2
Twins	...	...	4	Discharging eyes	...	...	35
Miscarriage	...	...	2	Convulsions	...	...	2
Threatened abortion	...	...	2				
Stillbirth	...	...	7				709
Death of fœtus	...	...	2				

Compared with last year's figures there is an increase of 60 in the number of calls.

Other notifications received from midwives under Central Midwives Board rules :—

Notifications of artificial feeding	...	...	...	133
„ „ stillbirth	...	...	...	35
„ „ death	...	...	...	20
„ „ having laid out a dead body	...	...	...	11
„ „ liability to be a source of infection	...	...	...	9

Twenty-seven visits of inspection were paid to midwives in their own homes.

Midwives' Week. As the Municipal Midwives' Service was being inaugurated at the time when Midwives' Week is usually held, it was decided to postpone the Course.

Domiciliary Midwifery Service. An Assistant Supervisor of Midwives and ten Municipal Midwives were appointed in accordance with the provisions of the Midwives Act, 1936. The midwives were chosen from amongst those already in private practice in the City and started their municipal work on October 21st. The following

table summarises the work done by them from October 21st until the end of the year:—

No. of cases attended—					
Midwife only	...	...	...	...	86
Midwife with doctor	...	...	...	...	30
				—	116
No. of cases taken over from midwives	...	...	...	...	205
No. of cases booked from Oct. 21st to Dec. 31st	...	...	...	...	190
No. of ante-natal visits	...	...	...	...	666
No. of ante-natal clinic visits	...	...	...	...	45
No. of patients transferred to City Hospital	...	...	...	...	9
No. of miscarriages	...	...	...	...	3
No. of emergency cases	...	...	...	...	3

The patient's choice of midwife is limited to those resident in her own particular district and always subject to the booking capacity of the midwife. The fee for a Municipal Midwife is £2 2s., but where a doctor is also engaged for the case the fee is reduced to £1 15s. This fee includes morning and evening visits for the first three days and daily visits until the fourteenth day. If a reduction of the fee is desired, a form has to be filled in giving particulars of the family income and expenditure. This form can be had from the midwife on booking. It should be completed according to the instructions printed thereon and returned as soon as possible to the Town Hall, Stonehouse. Fees may be paid in full or by instalments before the confinement takes place, if the patient so wishes. Midwives may receive monies and give receipts.

Maternity outfits, which include cotton-wool, pads, cord dressings and ligatures, can be obtained at the Midwifery Office, Town Hall, Stonehouse, or from any Municipal Midwife, or at any of the Municipal Ante-natal Clinics at the nominal charge of 4/-. This charge is reduced for necessitous mothers.

To every confinement the Municipal Midwife takes a sterile bundle containing two gowns, two caps, two masks, three towels, two sanitary towels, swabs, ligatures and cord dressings, and she leaves a clean gown in the patient's house to be worn on subsequent nursing visits. Sterile masks are carried in the nursing bag, and one is worn at each visit.

All the Municipal Midwives have been provided with telephones.

Fees paid to Doctors. Four hundred and eighty-six doctors' accounts were dealt with under Section 14 of the Midwives Act, 1918, and in 259 of these the full fee was paid by the Local

Supervising Authority without recovery. In 160 cases the full fee, and in 67 cases half the fee, was recoverable in accordance with the scale of income fixed by the City Council. Amount paid, £662 1s. 2d. ; Recoverable, £272 16s. 2d. ; Total cost, £389 5s.

There were also nine calls under the Consultant Service Scheme.

Fees paid to Midwives. In 51 necessitous cases the midwife's fee was paid by the Local Supervising Authority, due application having been made during the ante-natal period.

In 7 cases a small compensation fee was paid for loss of a booked case which had to be sent to hospital.

Maternity and Nursing Homes. *Maternity Homes.*

On Register, 1st January, 1937	..	...	...	5
Closed during the year	...	...	...	2
On Register at end of year	...	...	...	3

Nursing Homes. (Five take maternity cases).

On Register, 1st January, 1937	...	...	...	6
Closed during the year	...	...	...	—
On Register at end of year	...	...	...	6

There were no applications for exemption from registration.

Twenty-four routine visits of inspection were paid to maternity and nursing homes during the year. Five special visits were paid to the Alexandra Maternity Home on account of puerperal pyrexia notifications, and on each occasion all the contacts were swabbed. The Home was closed for one week in March, and the Old Block was closed for a week in December on account of puerperal pyrexia.

Ten special visits were paid to the T.T.N.A. Maternity Home in connection with puerperal pyrexia notifications, and at each of these visits all the contacts were swabbed. The Home was closed for a week in May, and in December, admissions to one ward were restricted for three days.

Maternal Mortality. Twenty-two women died in Plymouth during 1937 from causes attributable to pregnancy and child-birth, and seven from causes associated with pregnancy and child-birth. Of the 22 deaths due to pregnancy and child-birth, five were outward transfers. There were no inward transfers. The maternal mortality rate is, therefore, 5.3 per 1,000 allocated births (puerperal sepsis, 2.19 ; other causes, 3.3).

DEATHS ASSOCIATED WITH PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH : 7.

Causes of Death.

- (1) Tuberculosis of lungs, abortion.
- (2) Mitral stenosis, pulmonary tuberculosis, labour.
- (3) Staphylococcal septicæmia, onset prior to labour.
- (4) Anæsthetic death.
- (5) Endocarditis.
- (6) Septic endocarditis complicating pregnancy, undelivered.
- (7) Myocarditis, labour.

(In 2, 4 and 7, death occurred within two hours of the termination of labour.)

DEATHS DUE TO PREGNANCY AND CHILDBIRTH : 22.

(Belonging to Plymouth, 17).

Causes.

Sepsis (primip., 2 ; multip., 2) ...	...	...	4
Abortion sepsis (all multip.) ...	...	...	4
Hæmorrhage—A.P.H. (all multip.) ...	...	...	2
P.P.H. (multip.) ...	...	...	1
Eclampsia (primip., 4 ; multip., 4) ...	...	...	8
Toxæmia (primip.) ...	...	...	1
Obstetric and post-operative shock (primip.) ...	...	...	1
Obstetric shock (primip.) ...	...	...	1
			—
			22
			==

Where confined.

Confined own home ...	...	...	5
Aborted own home ...	...	...	3
Confined at Institutions—			
City Hospital ...	...	...	5
Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank ...	...	...	1
T.T.N.A. ...	...	...	1
Undelivered, City Hospital ...	...	...	5
Delivered of hydatidiform mole—Institutions ...	...	...	2
			—
			22
			—

Character of labour.

Hydatidiform mole ...	...	...	2
Abortion ...	...	...	4
Instrumental ...	...	...	4
Cæsarean hysterotomy, following dystocia ...	...	...	2
Spontaneous ...	...	...	3
Undelivered—Eclampsia ...	...	...	4
Accouchement forcé ...	...	...	1
Induced (at 24 and 34 weeks) ...	...	...	2
			—
			22
			—

Ages.

20-24 years	...	...	...	...	3
25-29	„	...	...	...	7
30-34	„	...	...	...	4
35-39	„	...	...	...	3
40 and over	...	...	...	...	4
Not known	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 22
					<hr/>

Parity.

1st pregnancy	...	...	...	...	9*
2nd	„	...	...	...	1
3rd	„	...	...	...	5
4th	„	...	...	...	2
5th	„	...	...	...	2
9th	„	...	...	...	2
Not known	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 22
					<hr/>

* Note high proportion of first pregnancies.

Duration of pregnancy.

Term	...	...	...	...	7
36-40 weeks	...	...	...	...	1
32-36	„	...	...	...	5
24-28	„	...	...	...	3
Under 24 weeks	...	...	...	...	6
					<hr/> 22
					<hr/>

Home conditions.

Good to very good	...	...	...	...	3
Fair	...	...	...	...	15
Poor	...	...	...	...	4
					<hr/> 22
					<hr/>

Ante-natal supervision.

Satisfactory	...	...	...	...	9
Inadequate	...	...	...	...	6
Nil	...	...	...	...	7
					<hr/> 22
					<hr/>

Place of death.

Died in Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank	...	...	...	...	3
„ Prince of Wales's Hospital, Lockyer Street	...	...	...	...	2
„ City Hospital	...	...	...	...	15
„ T.T.N.A. Maternity Home	...	...	...	...	1
„ Nursing Home	...	...	...	...	1
					<hr/> 22
					<hr/>

TOTAL PUERPERAL MORTALITY.

Year	ENGLAND AND WALES		PLYMOUTH	
	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births	Per 1,000 live births	Per 1,000 total births
1928	4.42	4.25	6.04	—
1929	4.33	4.16	4.98	—
1930	4.40	4.22	6.43	—
1931	4.11	3.94	—	2.81
1932	4.21	4.04	—	5.58
1933	4.51	4.32	—	5.95
1934	4.60	4.42	—	4.2
1935	4.10	3.93	—	5.01
1936	3.81	3.65	—	2.82
1937	3.23	3.11*	—	5.3†

* Puerperal sepsis 0.94
Other causes 2.17

† Puerperal sepsis 2.19
Other causes 3.13

Puerperal Pyrexia

The total number of cases notified was 58. As the Public Health Act, which came into operation on October 1st, 1937, abolished the notification of puerperal fever as such, the detailed classification of previous years has been abandoned. On investigation, it was found that in the majority of cases the pyrexia was due to puerperal or post-abortion sepsis. There were five deaths from sepsis. *Vide* following table:—

Year	No. of cases notified		Total
	P.P.	P.F.	
Oct., 1926– Dec., 1927	—	—	96
1928	—	—	58
1929	47	15	62
1930	32	20	52
1931	41	12	53
1932	39	13	52
1933	25	26	51
1934	29	16	45
1935	30	22	52
1936	21	17	38
1937	41	14	55

		P.F.	P.P.
No. of cases notified	...	14 (2 deaths)	44 (3 deaths)
Outward transfers	...	—	3
		—	—
Total Plymouth cases		14	41
		==	==

Case rate per 1,000 registered births	15.8
Treated own homes 2	8
„ in hospital 12	25
„ Maternity and Nursing Homes —	11
—	—
14	44
—	—

The following summary of information is based on the total number of cases notified:—

Aborted own home	7
„ in City Hospital	5
„ in Alexandra Home	1
„ in Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank ...	1
Confined own home—	
(a) midwife only	11
(b) midwife with doctor	6
(c) doctor with handywoman	1
Confined City Hospital	4
„ Alexandra Maternity Home	8
„ T.T.N.A. Maternity Home	13
„ Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank ...	1
	58
	—

Parity.

Primiparæ	27
Multiparæ	28
Not known	3
	58
	—

Duration of pregnancy.

Term	42
Abortion	14
Premature	2
	58
	—

Character of labour.

Spontaneous	26
Instrumental	12
Abortion	14
Cæsarean	2
Craniotomy	1
Induction	2
Bimanual	1
	58
	—

Day of onset of illness.

1st	...	...	...	...	...	9
2nd	...	...	...	...	...	4
3rd	...	...	...	...	...	10
4th	...	...	...	...	...	6
5th	...	...	...	...	...	5
6th	...	...	...	...	...	5
7th	...	...	...	...	...	5
9th	...	...	...	...	...	2
10th	...	...	...	...	...	2
12th	...	...	...	...	...	3
Over 12 days	...	...	...	...	...	2
Not known	...	...	...	...	...	3
						<hr/> 58 <hr/>

Pyrexia due to—

Puerperal sepsis	...	...	...	...	10
Peritonitis	...	...	...	...	1
Acute intestinal obstruction	...	...	...	...	1
Septicæmia	...	...	...	...	5
Sapræmia ...	...	...	...	...	4
Metritis ...	...	...	...	...	3
Parametritis	...	...	...	...	3
Retained products	...	...	...	...	3
Abortion sepsis	...	...	...	...	13
Mastitis ...	...	...	...	...	1
Breast abscess	...	...	...	...	4
Toxæmia ...	...	...	...	...	2
Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	2
Influenza ...	...	...	...	...	1
Infection of urinary tract	...	...	...	...	1
Phlegmasia alba dolens	...	...	...	...	2
Inversion of uterus and cystitis	...	...	...	...	1
Prontosil reaction ...	...	...	...	...	1
					—
					58
					—

Bacteriological data.

In 14 cases a non-hæmolytic streptococcus was grown from the cervical swab. In no case was the hæmolytic streptococcus isolated from any of the swabs taken from cervix, nose or throat. One of the fatal cases had a non-hæmolytic streptococcus in the blood culture and the cervical swab. All the other blood cultures taken were sterile.

Causes of death in 5 cases.

- (1) Septicæmia, spontaneous labour at term, multipara.
- (2) Peritonitis following prolonged forceps delivery at term, primipara.
- (3) Peritonitis following forceps delivery at term, multipara.
- (4) Septicæmia, following abortion, multipara.
- (5) Septicæmia, following abortion, multipara.

**Birth
Control.**

The Plymouth branch of the National Birth Control Association continues to hold an evening Clinic once a week at Beaumont Hut, and the following report of the year's work has been submitted by the honorary secretary :—

No. of clinics held	...	...	...	...	...	47
New cases	...	...	...	...	...	140
(Sent by Health Authorities, 51. Paid for, 43)						
No. of return visits	...	...	...	...	...	821
Seen by doctor	...	...	...	...	...	471

The number of new cases is less than last year, but the return visits are considerably higher.

The City Council pays a grant of 8s. 6d. for every necessitous case referred for advice by medical officers of the Council. Forty-three such cases were referred in the course of the year.

**Nova et
vetera.**

Once again we must gratefully say " Thank you " to our voluntary workers for the splendid way in which they have helped in the various centres throughout the year.

The co-operation between the Maternity and Child Welfare Department and the various voluntary organisations in the City remains on the same friendly and helpful basis.

The Council of Social Service has continued its good work of providing dinners for needy expectant and nursing mothers referred by Maternity and Child Welfare medical officers. When the family is already in receipt of Public Assistance Relief, the Public Assistance Committee pays for the mother's dinner, but apart from this the whole scheme is financed and organised by the Council of Social Service. Fifty-nine mothers in all were referred for dinners, and of these, 13 were getting Public Assistance Relief.

Stoke House.

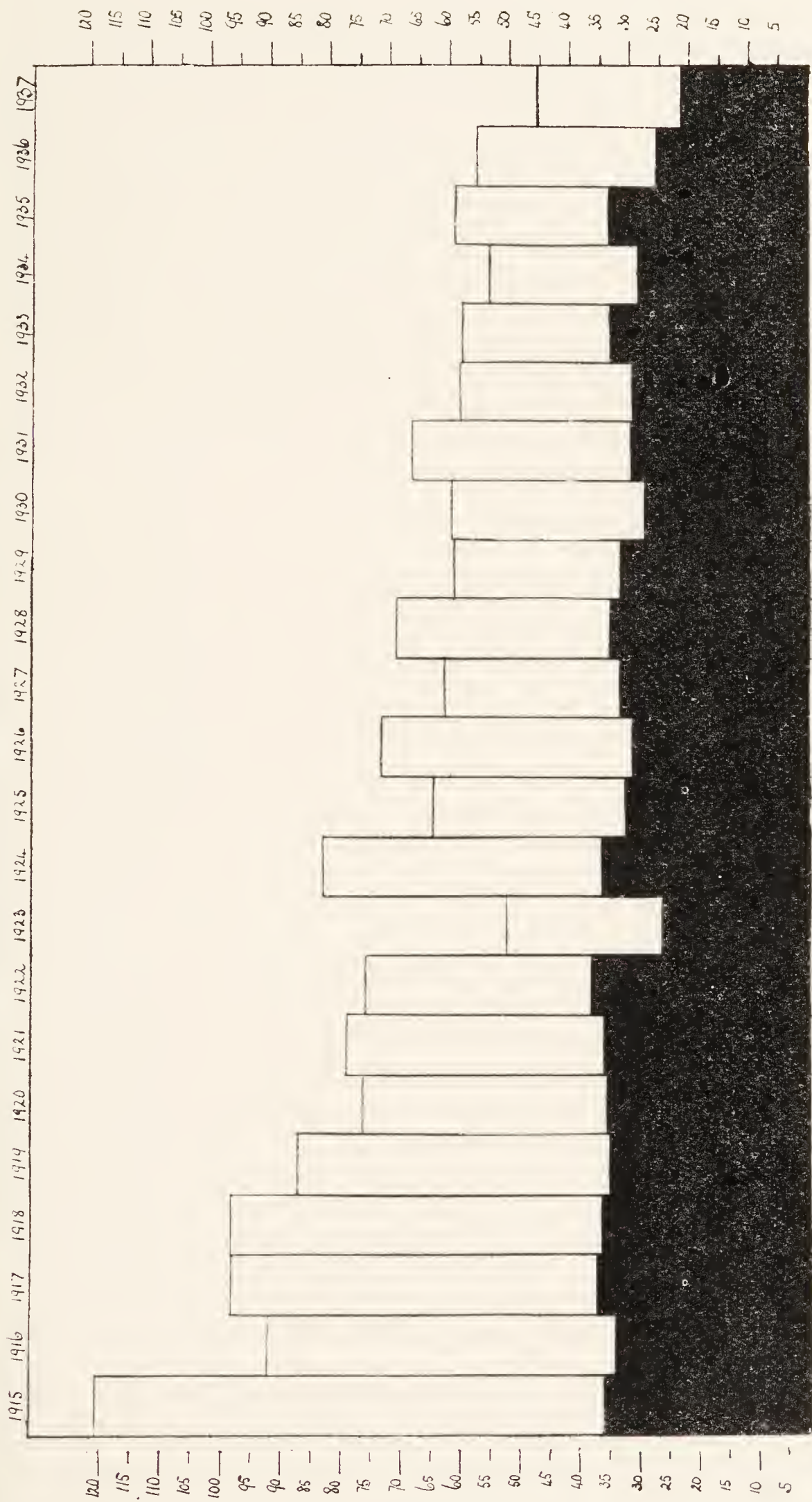
The medical supervision of this Children's Home is carried out by a medical officer of the Maternity and Child Welfare staff. Fifty-nine visits were paid during the year. The number of children in the Home is usually between 30 and 40. In January there were 12 cases of influenza, in September 2 cases of mumps, in September–October 2 cases of chicken-pox, and from the middle of November until the end of the year there were 12 cases of measles which necessitated opening a small cottage in the grounds as an isolation unit. Half-yearly reports are submitted to the Education Authority.

Observation Play Circle.

Forty-six sessions were held during the year, under the able supervision of Mrs. Hamley, assisted by a voluntary helper. One hundred and twenty-five children made 710 attendances, the average attendance being 15.4.

The available accommodation at Beaumont Hut is not adequate, and a voluntary effort is being made to raise funds for the erection of a wooden hut. Although it was hoped to open similar play centres at other welfare centres, it has not been found possible to surmount the staffing difficulties. Trained workers are essential, but are difficult to secure on a voluntary basis. We are deeply indebted to Mrs. Hamley for the time and energy she has devoted to this work, and congratulate her on the excellent results obtained.

INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1915—1937.



NOTE : The shaded portion shows the number of Deaths due to ante-natal causes per 1,000 births ; and the unshaded portion shows the Deaths due to post-natal influences. The total column shows the rate of infantile mortality year by year.

INFANTILE MORTALITY.
Year 1937.

Cause of Death.	Whether Uncertified.	Illegiti- mate.		AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.																		WARD DISTRIBUTION.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																										
				Under 1 week.		1—2 weeks.		2—3 weeks.		3—4 weeks.		Total under 1 month.		1—3 months.		3—6 months.		6—9 months.		9—12 months.		Total under 1 year.		Compton.	Mutley.	Pennycross.	Laira.	Charles.	Friary.	Sutton.	Vintry.	Drake.	St. Andrew's.	St. Peter's.	Valletort.	Mount Edgumbe.	Molesworth.	St. Budeaux.	Ford.	Nelson.	Keyham.	St. Aubyn.	Stoke.	Totals																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																				
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Live Births (allocated by the Reg. Gen.) belonging to the City:— Total 3,073 (M. 1,561; F. 1,512). Infantile Mortality Rate (Deaths per 1,000 Live Births) 45.88.

Sanitary Circumstances
including the
Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

Sanitary Circumstances including the Report of the Chief Sanitary Inspector

Water Supply. The water supply for the City is derived from moorland catchment areas in the uplands of Dartmoor. Chlorination has been in operation for some years. The supply is of good quality and adequate in quantity. There has been no material alteration in the method of treatment or supply since the detailed account given in my Annual Report for 1935.

Towards the end of the year a scheme was evolved whereby representative samples are taken once a week from the areas supplied by the six service reservoirs. This ensures that at least six samples of water are taken every week for bacteriological examination. Samples are taken for chemical examination once a quarter.

It has been possible to arrange for an independent check to be made on chemical and bacteriological samples.

The following is a summary of the results given by the City Bacteriologist throughout the year:—

<i>Reservoir.</i>		B. Coli absent in 100 c.c's	B. Coli absent in 50 c.c's	B. Coli absent in 25 c.c's
Beacon ...	...	11	—	—
Crownhill ...	...	10	3	—
Drake ...	...	8	2	1
Hartley ...	...	9	3	1
Roborough ...	...	9	—	—
Rowden ...	...	7	2	—

Quarterly chemical analyses gave the following results the figures representing parts per 100,000:—

	FEBRUARY		MAY		AUGUST		NOVEMBER	
Total Dissolved Solids ...	3·5	4·0	4·0	3·0	5·0	4·0	3·5	6·5
Suspended Matter ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ammonia	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Trace	Nil	Nil
Albumoid Ammonia ...	0·002	0·003	0·002	0·002	0·002	0·003	0·002	0·002
Nitrogen as Nitrites ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Nitrogen as Nitrates ...	0·087	0·087	0·131	0·065	0·262	0·109	0·109	0·109
Chlorine	1·065	1·775	0·355	0·71	1·42	1·065	0·71	1·065
O ₂ consumed	0·375	0·512	0·096	0·24	0·152	0·208	0·32	0·41
Poisonous Metals ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Permanent Hardness	0·75	0·75	0·75	0·75	1·85	1·25	1·25	1·50
Temporary Hardness	0·25	0·75	0·25	0·25	0·45	0·50	0·50	1·00

Dry Household Refuse and Street Cleansing. During the year this work was carried out under the same system as in the previous year, and the total amount of refuse collected was 54,383 tons (87.41% by mechanical transport, and 12.59% by horse transport).

The controlled tipping at Lipson Marshes and Camel’s Head has progressed satisfactorily, and no complaints of the presence of a nuisance were received.

During the year two additional mechanical transport waggons have been acquired by the City Engineer’s Department, and the horse-drawn vehicles have been reduced to five, the latter operating near the Destructor. The two new machines are of the type known as The Eagle “Compressmore” refuse collection vehicles; they are rear-loading from step and of thirty-six yards’ capacity, which compresses to eighteen yards.

For street cleansing, the dual purpose orderly trucks have been increased by twelve, thus displacing an equal number of open wheelbarrows.

Merchandise Marks Act. During the year 725 visits were made by the Sanitary Inspectors to shops, costers' stores and barrows with regard to the orders and provisions of the above Act. It was found necessary in several instances to issue leaflets of instruction regarding the marking of imported foodstuffs, etc.

Shops Acts Arrangements for the health and comfort of shop workers have again called for special attention by the Sanitary Inspectors. The provisions relating to sanitary measures apply to all shops, retail, wholesale and warehouses, in which either adults or juvenile assistants are employed.

In these shops there shall be provided and maintained:—

Suitable and sufficient means of ventilation.

„ „ „ „ to maintain a reasonable temperature.

„ „ „ „ of lighting.

„ „ „ „ sanitary conveniences.

„ „ „ „ washing facilities, etc.

Drainage and Sewerage. In addition to the relaying and general maintenance of existing sewers, the following works of sewerage have been carried out during the year:—

The reconstruction of Swilly Valley Sewer was carried out and a new 36-in. diameter sewer was laid to replace the 15-in. diameter stoneware pipe sewer which was inadequate for the drainage of the growing Swilly Valley area. The new sewer provides for the whole drainage of the district when fully developed and, in addition, has been designed to take the storm-water which, until this improvement was carried out, discharged to a stream in the valley. Provision having been made for the storm-water, it was possible to commence the filling in of the stream and valley preparatory to constructing the new Town Planning road through the valley.

The above sewer discharges into the St. Levan Road sewers, which consist of 21-in. diameter and 24-in. diameter foul and storm-water sewers respectively. These sewers were found to be inadequate. A scheme was approved by the Ministry of Health whereby a 3-ft. 6-in. diameter sewer is to replace the existing sewers. The new sewer will have sufficient capacity to deal with the drainage of the district when fully developed and, in addition, provision has been made for diverting, through the existing Ford Valley Tunnel Culvert, up to six times the average dry-weather flow to the new

Camel's Head Purification Works, thus reducing pollution in the Hamoaze. This work, although not completed, was commenced during the year.

Constructional work has also been commenced on the Main Drainage Scheme for St. Budeaux, which is designed to have sufficient capacity to take in the Crownhill and Manadon areas as these are developed. The whole of this system discharges at the Camel's Head Sewage Purification Works.

Reconstruction of the sewage works at Camel's Head has been commenced. The present works have been overcharged for some years, and are quite incapable of properly treating the large amount of additional sewage reaching them as a result of rapid building development which has taken place in the St. Budeaux and Swilly areas. The new works will provide the most modern treatment, and a great improvement in conditions in the neighbourhood will result.

Smoke Abatement. During the year the emission of smoke and grit from factory chimneys has caused several observations to be taken by the Sanitary Inspectors, and in six instances the firms concerned were immediately informed and advice given to the responsible employees.

No statutory action was necessary, as the nuisances arising from the smoke emissions were abated by the improvement of the plant and fuel or by the introduction of new processes.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF PLYMOUTH, 1937.

Visits to premises	...	...	...	...	...	26,819
Tests applied to House Drains	...	...	...	...	...	2,837
Notices served to abate Nuisances	...	...	...	...	...	1,803
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	1,787
Legal Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	162
Sanitary Improvements effected	...	...	...	...	...	6,233
Letters written	...	...	...	...	...	1,896
Houses systematically inspected	...	...	...	...	...	5,180

HOUSES LET IN LODGINGS.

Number of visits	...	...	...	...	...	13,101
Notices served	...	...	...	...	...	1,224
Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	1,233

Visits to premises in connection with Infectious Diseases	...	743
---	-----	-----

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces.

1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

<i>Premises.</i> (1)	<i>Number of</i>		
	<i>Inspections.</i> (2)	<i>Written Notices.</i> (3)	<i>Occupiers prosecuted.</i> (4)
Factories (Including Factory Laundries)	122	40	—
Workshops (Including Workshop Laundries)	752	60	—
Workplaces (Other than Outworkers' premises)	—	—	—
Total	874	100	—

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

<i>Particulars.</i> (1)	<i>Number of Defects.</i>			<i>Number of offences in respect of which Prosecutions were instituted.</i> (5)
	<i>Found</i> (2)	<i>Remedied</i> (3)	<i>Referred to H.M. Inspector.</i> (4)	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness	80	49	—	—
Want of ventilation	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding	1	1	—	—
Want of drainage of floors	—	—	—	—
Other nuisances	12	11	—	—
Sanitary accommodation {	insufficient	—	—	—
	unsuitable or defective	6	5	—
	not separate for sexes	1	—	—
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>				
Illegal occupation of underground bakehouse (s. 101)	—	—	—	—
Other offences	—	—	—	—
Total	100	66	—	—

FACTORY AND WORKSHOP ACT.

Inspections of Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	162
„ Workshops	...	...	...	...	794
„ Factories	...	...	...	...	129
„ Outworkers' Premises	...	...	...	...	125
Notices and Letters sent <i>re</i> defects	...	...	...	...	86

GENERAL SANITARY WORK EFFECTED.

Number of Drains re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	663
Choked drains cleared	...	...	...	417
Soil Pipes and Ventilating Shafts fixed and repaired	...	...	...	310
Stoneware Gully Traps fixed	...	...	...	673
New Water-closet Pans fixed	...	...	...	503
Inspection Chambers constructed	...	...	...	309
Flush Cisterns fixed or repaired	...	...	...	306
New Closets and Urinals provided	...	...	...	149
Surface of Courtyards, etc., re-laid or repaired	...	...	...	485
Refuse Bins provided	...	...	...	470
Premises cleansed and limewashed or papered	...	...	...	299
Roofs and Flats repaired	...	...	...	311
Foul Closets cleansed	...	...	...	41
Offensive Manure removed	...	...	...	88
New Ground Floors laid and ventilated	...	...	...	156
Slate Tanks abolished	...	...	...	16
Eaves Gutters and Fall Pipes repaired	...	...	...	158
Wall Drains destroyed	...	...	...	3
Nuisances (caused by keeping animals) abated	...	...	...	15
Other Sanitary Improvements	...	...	...	855
TOTAL				6,233

Disinfection.

Premises disinfected	...	...	...	1,558
Articles disinfected	...	...	...	7,000

Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

The following represents the work carried out under the above Act during 1937:—

Premises visited and re-visited	...	...	...	1,017
Baits laid	...	...	...	8,064
Rats destroyed	...	...	...	601

Outworkers, The lists containing the names and addresses of outworkers, supplied by the various employers, received the usual attention. The premises of 118 such outworkers were visited by the District Sanitary Inspectors, and in every instance the home conditions were found to be satisfactory.

HOUSING.

I am indebted to the Housing Estates Manager for the information given in the following table in so far as it applies to his department:—

HOUSING STATISTICS, 1937.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING-HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:—

(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ...	4,603
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	16,730
(2)	(a)	Number of dwelling-houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 ...	5,180
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	5,180
(3)		Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation ...	294
(4)		Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ...	1,033

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES:—

	Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers ...	1,686
--	---	-------

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR:—

(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	150
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners ...	99
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil
(b)	Proceedings under Public Health Acts:	
(1)	Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied ...	162
(2)	Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:	
	(a) By owners ...	117
	(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	Nil

(c) Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	16
(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	9
(3) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Undertakings to render fit for human habitation were accepted	38
(4) Number of dwelling-house rendered fit for human habitation in pursuance of accepted Undertakings ...	9
(5) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Undertakings not to use for human habitation were accepted	21
(d) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:	
(1) Number of parts of buildings or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	61
(2) Number of parts of buildings or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the parts of buildings or underground rooms having been rendered fit	26
(3) Number of parts of buildings or underground rooms in respect of which Undertakings to render fit for human habitation were accepted	3
(4) Number of parts of buildings or underground rooms rendered fit for human habitation in pursuance of accepted Undertakings	2
(5) Number of parts of buildings or underground rooms in respect of which Undertakings not to use for human habitation were accepted	3

Slum Clearance.

The fourth section of the Council's programme was the subject of a public enquiry by the Ministry of Health in July, 1937. The Orders were confirmed by the Minister with very slight modifications, and included a total of 566 houses and a population of 3,176 to be rehoused. The areas concerned were Richmond Street and William Street, Plymouth; Willow Street, Plymouth; King Street, Plymouth; Gilwell Street, Plymouth; Hampton Street, Plymouth; North Street, Plymouth; Hill Street, Plymouth; Green Street, Plymouth; Cambridge Lanes East and West, Plymouth; Market Street and Barrack Street, Devonport; Queen Street and Albany Street, Devonport; Elphinstone Flats, Plymouth; Waterloo Yard, Stonehouse; Exeter Street and Lower Street, Plymouth; and Mutton Cove, Devonport.

The following shows the progress of the Slum Clearance programme by June, 1938:—

	<i>No. of Houses to be</i>	<i>No. of Persons to be.</i>
Clearance Areas which are the subjects of Confirmed Orders	<i>Demolished.</i> 1289	<i>Displaced.</i> 8800 (approx.)

The Council can feel justly proud of their efforts in recent years to abolish some of the worst of the City's unfit houses. Their policy up to 1937 had been largely to re-house the displaced families in flats erected upon the cleared sites, and several excellent blocks of flats have been built. This has been a very slow procedure because of the time taken, first in acquiring the land and buildings ; secondly, in demolishing the houses ; and thirdly, in finding temporary accommodation for the tenants whilst the flats are being erected.

All clearance areas of a reasonable size and suitable in location have been utilised in this way, but it has become necessary to find fresh sites for re-housing outside the congested districts. The clearance areas remaining to be dealt with will be too small in size, or situated in unsuitable districts, to permit their being used for re-housing. The cost of some of the cleared sites used in the past has been extremely high, and the rents which have to be charged for flats on these sites are correspondingly high.

Overcrowding. So far, the Council's building programme has been completely occupied by the re-housing of families displaced from clearance areas and from individual houses demolished ; and it has consequently not been possible yet to build any new houses for the purpose of abating " overcrowding." The following table shows that during 1937, 201 cases of overcrowding were abated ; but there are still 3,134 known cases of overcrowding, of which 382 are in houses owned by the Local Authority.

The overcrowding position in Plymouth is a serious one. During the survey carried out in April, 1936, the overcrowding of working-class dwellings in Plymouth was 6% as compared with 4.2% for all County Boroughs. The density of population in the various wards of the City is given in a table on page 00. The number of persons per acre in the whole City is 36.5, as compared with 15.18 for the total of the County Boroughs in England and Wales. In five wards of the City the number of persons per acre varies from 79.2 in Charles Ward to 110.5 in St. Peter's Ward. These figures seemed to carry considerable weight with the Parliamentary Committees when they were hearing the Plymouth Extension Bill in March and May, 1938.

**New
Houses.**

The following table shows the number of new dwelling-houses erected in the City during recent years:—

Year.	<i>By the Corporation.</i>			<i>By Private Enterprise.</i>			TOTAL
	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Houses</i>	<i>Flats</i>	<i>Total</i>	
1919	Nil	Nil	Nil	9	Nil	9	9
1920	2	Nil	2	6	Nil	6	8
1921	264	Nil	264	7	Nil	7	271
1922	402	Nil	402	8	Nil	8	410
1923	30	Nil	30	63	Nil	63	93
1924	90	14	104	122	Nil	122	226
1925	91	62	153	200	Nil	200	353
1926	199	50	249	300	Nil	300	549
1927	308	62	370	482	Nil	482	852
1928	360	25	385	321	Nil	321	706
1929	226	Nil	226	116	Nil	116	342
1930	43	24	67	330	Nil	330	397
1931	58	9	67	304	Nil	304	371
1932	Nil	16	16	347	Nil	347	363
1933	45	65	110	473	Nil	473	583
1934	168	51	219	462	4	466	685
1935	Nil	54	54	530	16	546	600
1936	7	91	166	512	4	516	682
1937	116	136	252	786	36	822	1074
Totals	2477	659	3136	5378	60	5438	8574

HOUSING ACT, 1936—OVERCROWDING.

(a)	(1)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year (including non-segregation of sexes)	3134
	(2)	Number of families dwelling therein	3134
	(3)	Number of persons (equivalent adults) dwelling therein	15076½
(b)		Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	566
(c)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	201

	(2)	Number of persons (equivalent adults) concerned in such cases	...	...	...	...	...	1068½
(d)		Particulars of any cases in which dwelling-houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding	...	...	...	...		Nil
(e)	(1)	Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the Local Authority at the end of the year	...	...	...	...	...	382
	(2)	Number of cases of overcrowding in houses owned by the Local Authority which have been relieved during the year	...	...	...	...	...	31
	(3)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved in the course of slum clearance operations	...	...	...	...	...	135

DISINFESTATION OF VERMINOUS PREMISES.

The following is a summary of the work carried out during 1937:—

Number of Council houses infested with vermin	...	234
Number of other houses infested with vermin	...	215
		<hr/>
Total	...	449

These were all disinfested. =====

All these houses were fumigated by this department, a proprietary liquid disinfectant being used, and in a few instances, sulphur-dioxide, after all harbourages had been exposed.

Advice is given by the Sanitary Inspectors to tenants, and leaflets left with them regarding means of preventing re-infestation of houses which have been cleansed.

In addition to the above, in connection with the Slum Clearance programme of the City Council, the effects of 348 families (apart from the bedding to be used the night after the removal) being re-housed in Council houses and flats were treated with hydrogen-cyanide, the work being carried out by a firm specialising in the work. The bedding belonging to these people was subjected to steam in the steam disinfector at Swilly Hospital.

CREMATION,

The Plymouth City Crematorium at Efford Cemetery was opened in November, 1934. The Medical Officer of Health and the Deputy Medical Officer of Health are the Medical Referee and Deputy Medical Referee respectively. Up to the end of 1937, a total of 537 cremations were carried out, 253 during the year. Of these 253, 59 were in respect of residents of the City of Plymouth.

Inspection and Supervision of Food

Inspection and Supervision of Food

MILK SUPPLY.

Methods of Delivery. I am pleased to say that there has been considerable improvement in the methods of delivery of milk throughout the City. One large firm now distributes all its milk in bottles, and I understand that there has been an appreciable increase in the amount of bottled milk sold by other large dairies. Most of the small retailers are now using some method of protecting the taps of their churns when delivering milk on their rounds.

MILK (SPECIAL DESIGNATIONS) ORDER, 1936.

The number of licences issued under the above Order was:—

Licences for Pasteurising Plants	...	...	5
Licences to retail Pasteurised Milk	...	...	5
Licences to retail Tuberculin Tested Milk	...	...	34
Licences to retail Tuberculin Tested (Certified) Milk	...	...	5
Licences to retail Accredited Milk	...	...	1

No dealers' licences are operative in the City.

After January 1st the methylene blue test was applied to all "designated" milks and also to all samples of raw milk. We have considered samples of raw milk to be satisfactory if they failed to decolourise methylene blue in four and a half hours in the winter and three and a half hours in the summer. In addition, phosphatase tests were carried out on samples of pasteurised milk. The following tables give the results of the bacteriological examinations performed during the year:—

				<i>Sub-</i>	<i>Satis-</i>	<i>Not</i>
				<i>mitted.</i>	<i>factory.</i>	<i>Satis-</i>
Tuberculin Tested Certified	...	...	...	202	194	8
Pasteurised	...	...	...	191	191	.
Tuberculin Tested	...	...	...	42	42	-
Sterilized	...	...	...	47	47	-
Accredited	...	...	...	28	26	2
Raw	...	...	...	360	274	86

	<i>No.</i> <i>Tested.</i>	<i>Satis-</i> <i>factory.</i>	<i>Not</i> <i>Satis-</i> <i>factory.</i>
B. Coli Test	241	232	9
Methylene Blue Test	640	545	95
Bacterial Count	274	274	—
Animal Inoculation for T.B. ...	63	63	—
Phosphatase Test	12	11	1

Sixty-three samples were examined for tubercle bacilli by animal inoculation, and all proved negative.

Ice Cream. Unfortunately there is no legal standard of cleanliness for ice cream, but we have adopted a standard similar to that required for pasteurised milk. The following table gives the results based on this standard:—

	<i>Submitted.</i>	<i>Satisfactory.</i>	<i>Not</i> <i>Satisfactory.</i>
Ice cream ...	38	35	3

MILK AND DAIRIES (CONSOLIDATION) ACT, 1915.

During the year legal proceedings were taken against one person for an offence under this Act, and a fine was inflicted.

<i>Reason</i>	<i>No. of</i> <i>Prosecutions</i>	<i>Result</i>
No name on vehicle ...	1	Fined 5/-

MILK AND DAIRIES ORDER, 1926.

During the year legal proceedings were taken against six persons or firms for offences under this Order, and a fine was inflicted in each case.

<i>Reason</i>	<i>No. of</i> <i>Prosecutions</i>	<i>Result</i>
Skimmed Milk not marked ...	1	Fined £1
„ „ ...	1	Fined £1
„ „ ...	1	Fined 5/-
„ „ ...	1	Fined 5/-
Holes in lid of churn ...	1	Fined £1
Bottling milk in street ...	1	Fined 10/-

MEAT AND OTHER FOODS.

Inspection of premises:—

Number of provision shop inspections	...	...	...	485
Number of fish cart and shop inspections	...	...	...	937
Number of fruit cart and shop inspections	...	...	...	1588
Number of butchers' shop inspections	...	...	...	416
Number of slaughter-house inspections	...	...	...	3496

Number of carcasses examined in the Wholesale Meat Market:—

Bovines	...	...	...	...	21,919
Sheep and Lamb	...	...	...	...	93,674
Calves	...	...	...	...	2,496
Pigs	...	...	...	...	36,049

The number of animals slaughtered in the City during the year was 30,310, made up as follows:—

Bovines	...	...	...	...	11,927
Sheep and Lamb	...	...	...	...	15,932
Calves	...	...	...	...	646
Pigs	...	...	...	...	1,805

CARCASSES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	<i>Cattle, excluding Cows.</i>	<i>Cows.</i>	<i>Calves.</i>	<i>Sheep and Lambs.</i>	<i>Pigs.</i>
Number killed ...	36 55	8272	646	15932	1805
Number inspected ...	<i>Cattle.</i> 21919		2496	93674	36049
<i>All diseases except Tuberculosis.</i> Whole carcasses condemned	359		304	502	234
<i>Tuberculosis only.</i> Whole carcasses condemned	256		7	<i>Pigs.</i> 97	
Carcasses of which some organ was condemned ...	2060		—	121	

It has not been possible to provide in full the information set out on page 8 of Circular 1650 for 1937, but in future this will be arranged.

UNSOUND FOOD DESTROYED.

The quantity of unsound food surrendered to District Sanitary Inspectors, and destroyed:—

FRUIT—*Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.*

Apples	0	0	0	2
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PROVISIONS—

Pork	2	8	3	2½
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	----

Beef	0	1	2	26¾
------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	-----

Offal	0	0	2	5
-------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	---

Ham	0	0	1	18
-----	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	----

Tongue	0	0	0	18
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Rolled Oats	0	0	0	10
-------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	----

Veal and Ham	0	0	0	14½
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Pressed Cheek	0	0	0	8½
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Egg and Veal Pie	0	0	0	11
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TINNED GOODS—

Beef	0	4	1	14
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Pork	0	0	0	6
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Tongue	0	1	0	16
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Ham	0	0	1	16½
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Jellied Veal	0	0	0	6
--------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	---

Shrimp Paste	161 tins			
--------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----------	--	--	--

Sardines	4	„		
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Herring Roes	2	„		
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FISH, SHELLFISH, ETC., INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED—

*Total of—**Tons cwt. qrs. lbs.*

Fish inspected	2923	7	0	0
----------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	------	---	---	---

Fish condemned (various)	19	8	2	3½
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	----	---	---	----

Smoked Fish condemned	0	13	0	0
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Chilled Salmon condemned	0	0	1	0
--------------------------	-----	-----	-----	-----	---	---	---	---

Shell Fish condemned—

Queens	1	10	0	0
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Escallops	0	7	3	0
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Prawns	0	0	4	2
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Whelks	9 gallons			
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Crabs	2904 in number			
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Crayfish	103 in number			
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Lobsters	83 in number			
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FOOD AND DRUGS ADULTERATION.

Bacteriological examination of food is carried out by the City Bacteriologist at the Prince of Wales Hospital, Greenbank ; and the chemical analysis is done by the City Analyst, Mr. Tickle, of Exeter.

The following tables show the sampling done during the year and the details of prosecutions undertaken :—

ADULTERATIONS, ETC.

It was found necessary to prosecute in 15 cases for offences under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928. Details are as follows :—

<i>Official Sample.</i>	<i>Extent of Adulteration.</i>	<i>Penalty Inflicted.</i>
Raw Milk	10% added water	Fined £3
„ „	23% deficient in fat	„ £2
„ „	14% added water	„ £1
„ „	12% „ „	„ £1
„ „	5% „ „	„ £1
Skimmed Milk	11% „ „	„ £2
„ „	11% „ „	„ £2
„ „	28% „ „	„ 30/-
„ „	26% „ „	„ 30/-
„ „	16% „ „	„ £1
„ „	15% „ „	„ £1
Raw Milk	24% deficient in fat	} Cases dismissed on pay- ment of costs, includ- ing analyst's fee.
„ „	7% „ „ „	
„ „	14% „ „ „	} Dismissed on pay- ment of costs.
„ „	„ „ „	
Refusal to sell	....	Fined £5

In 16 cases a warning letter was sent by the Town Clerk, and in 6 cases verbal caution and instruction was given.

In addition to the samples sent for analysis to the Public Analyst, 288 samples of Raw Milk and 113 of Skimmed Milk were obtained by the Inspector and examined by means of the Gerber Test.

ANNUAL SUMMARY 1937.

UNSOOUND MEAT DESTROYED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

[illegible]

SAMPLES TAKEN UNDER THE FOOD AND DRUGS
ADULTERATION ACT.

<i>Articles</i>	<i>Official</i>		<i>Informal</i>		<i>Totals</i>
	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adul- terated</i>	<i>Genuine</i>	<i>Adul- terated</i>	
Baking Powder ...	-	-	4	-	4
Brandy ...	-	-	4	-	4
Beer ...	-	-	6	-	6
Butter ...	4	-	27	2	33
Candied Peel ...	-	-	5	-	5
Camphorated Oil ...	-	-	4	-	4
Castor Oil ...	-	-	4	-	4
Cheese ...	-	-	6	-	6
Cocoa ...	-	-	5	-	5
Coffee ...	-	-	3	-	3
Coffee and Chicory ...	-	-	6	-	6
Condensed Milk ...	-	-	6	-	6
Cream ...	-	-	23	-	23
Custard Powder ...	-	-	4	-	4
Chocolate ...	-	-	2	-	2
Cider ...	-	-	4	-	4
Cordials ...	-	-	4	-	4
Dried Fruits ...	-	-	6	-	6
Dripping ...	-	-	5	-	5
Dried Milk ...	-	-	2	-	2
Epsom Salts ...	-	-	6	-	6
Flour ...	-	-	5	-	5
Ground Spices ...	-	-	5	-	5
Gin ...	-	-	5	-	5
Ground Almonds ...	-	-	5	-	5
Glycerine ...	-	-	6	-	6
Honey ...	-	-	4	-	4
Iodine Ointment ...	-	-	-	1	1
Jams ...	-	1	10	1	12
Lard ...	-	1	5	1	7
Lemon Cheese ...	-	-	5	-	5
Lemonade Powder ...	-	-	5	-	5
Minced Beef ...	-	-	6	-	6
Margarine ...	-	-	12	-	12
Marmalade ...	-	-	6	-	6
Meat and Fish Pastes ...	-	-	6	-	6
Mincemeat ...	-	-	5	-	5
Malt Vinegar ...	-	-	1	-	1
Mustard ...	-	-	2	-	2
Malted Milk ...	-	-	3	-	3
Olive Oil ...	-	-	5	-	5
Pasteurised Milk ...	5	-	-	-	5
Pearl Barley ...	-	-	3	2	5
Pickles ...	-	-	4	-	4
Pepper ...	-	-	4	-	4
Peas (Tinned) ...	-	-	4	-	4
Raw Milk ...	271	15	-	-	286
Rum ...	-	-	5	-	5
Rice ...	-	-	4	-	4
Sultanas ...	-	-	4	-	4
Saffron ...	-	-	4	-	4
Saugages ...	-	-	6	-	6
Skimmed Milk ...	54	10	-	-	64
Self-Raising Flour ...	-	-	5	-	5
Sauce ...	-	-	4	-	4
Suet ...	-	-	4	-	4
Sterilized Milk ...	1	-	-	-	1
Tinned Cream ...	1	-	5	1	7
Tinct. of Iodine ...	-	-	4	5	9
Tea ...	-	-	4	-	4
Tuberculin Tested Milk ...	1	-	-	-	1
Tuberculin Tested Certified Milk	3	3	-	-	6
Vinegar ...	-	-	6	-	6
TOTALS ...	340	30	307	13	690

Infectious Diseases

Infectious Diseases.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The accompanying tables (pages 84A and 84B) and remarks show the prevalence of infectious diseases during the year, together with age and ward distribution and the numbers treated in hospital. The total number of notifications during the year was 1,381, as compared with 1,534 in 1936.

Scarlet Fever. There was a slight decrease in the number of notifications of scarlet fever, viz., 453 as against 455 in the previous year. Of these, 358 (79.03%) were treated in hospital. Once again I would urge on general practitioners the advisability of nursing mild cases of scarlet fever at home whenever satisfactory isolation is possible. Unfortunately, the wards become congested with cases for whom hospital treatment is not absolutely necessary, to the detriment of the more severe cases. In addition, such patients are subject to the risks of cross-infection and re-infection with another type of streptococcus which leads to a prolonged stay in hospital.

At present there is no recognised scheme for home nursing and supervision of cases of scarlet fever by Nurses of this department. So long as the high rate of hospitalisation of scarlet fever continues it will not be possible to make any serious attempt to provide hospital treatment for measles or other non-notifiable diseases.

Diphtheria. It is pleasing to be able to record a substantial decrease in the number of cases of diphtheria. There were 272 cases with 16 deaths, compared with 455 cases with 40 deaths for 1936. It will be seen that the number of notifications is lowest since 1925. On the whole, the disease has been of a mild type, but special attention is drawn to the remarks of the Medical Superintendent of the Isolation Hospital on the value of the swab. Details as to immunisation will be found under the appropriate section.

The following table shows the attack rates per 1,000 of the population for Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria since 1920.

SCARLET FEVER AND DIPHTHERIA.

Attack rates per 1,000 population--City of Plymouth.

Year	SCARLET FEVER		DIPHTHERIA	
	Cases Notified	Attack Rate	Cases Notified	Attack Rate
1920 ...	432	2.11	471	2.30
1921 ...	410	1.94	263	1.24
1922 ...	357	1.69	203	0.96
1923 ...	332	1.57	154	0.72
1924 ...	364	1.76	184	0.89
1925 ...	633	2.99	285	1.35
1926 ...	606	2.87	282	1.33
1927 ...	325	1.54	372	1.76
1928 ...	167	0.79	423	1.99
1929 ...	366	1.71	525	2.46
1930 ...	1077	5.01	629	2.92
1931 ...	700	3.36	367	1.76
1932 ...	997	4.78	444	2.13
1933 ...	1094	5.30	337	1.63
1934 ...	561	2.75	376	1.84
1935 ...	570	2.79	481	2.36
1936 ...	455	2.23	455	2.23
1937 ...	453	2.13	272	1.29

The following table compares 1937 with 1936, 1933, 1932, 1928 (nine years ago) and 1923 (fourteen years ago) :—

YEAR	SCARLET FEVER.			DIPHTHERIA.			Other diseases treated in hospital
	Cases	Treated in hospital		Cases	Treated in hospital		
		Total	%		Total	%	
1923	332	298	89.8	154	139	90.3	22
1928	167	136	81.5	423	391	92.4	7
1932	997	768	77.0	444	428	96.4	54
1933	1094	728	66.5	337	327	97.0	81
1936	455	350	76.92	455	446	98.02	78
1937	453	358	79.03	272	269	98.90	60

Puerperal Pyrexia. Under the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1936, the term Puerperal Fever was omitted from the list of notifiable diseases after October 1st, 1937. It has been stated that there is a direct connection between the incidence of Puerperal Pyrexia and other streptococcal infections. The figures published do not show any marked correlation between the various diseases (Puerperal Pyrexia, Scarlet Fever, Erysipelas and Tonsillitis), but our impression was that the degree of infection during the autumn was more severe than previously, due possibly to some temporary increase in the virulence of the streptococcus.

Influenza. Thirty-five deaths were registered during the year, as compared with five deaths in 1936. As indicated in the Annual Report for 1936, there was an epidemic of influenza which reached its peak about the end of January, 1937. The disease was of a fairly mild type, but there was a marked rise in the number of deaths from bronchitis and pneumonia, no doubt subsequent upon influenzal infection. There were 198 deaths attributable to bronchitis, and 189 to pneumonia.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever. There were 8 notifications of this disease (6 civilian and 2 naval), with 7 deaths. Attention is directed to the remarks of the Medical Superintendent of Swilly Isolation Hospital on the methods of treatment of these cases.

Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. At the beginning of the fourth quarter of the year there was a marked increase in the number of cases of anterior poliomyelitis in the County area of Devon. Apprehension was felt lest the disease should become epidemic in Plymouth and steps were taken to deal with such an emergency. Briefly, the scheme evolved was as follows:—Patients were admitted to the Isolation Hospital for a period of three weeks and were seen on admission by an orthopædic surgeon and initial treatment carried on under his supervision with apparatus and specialist staff provided by the municipal Orthopædic Hospital. At the end of three weeks the patients were transferred to Mount Gold Orthopædic Hospital under the care of the surgeon who first saw the case for continuation of treatment.

Fortunately there were only three notifications of poliomyelitis during the year. One of these was an abortive case and the other two were treated on the lines as indicated above, with good results.

Enteric Fever. Five cases were notified during the year. Two of these cases were members of the same family, but there appeared to be no common cause of infection for the other cases. All the patients recovered.

Measles. Nine cases of measles were admitted to the Isolation Hospital for treatment. Unfortunately it does not appear possible to obtain a pooled adult serum in Plymouth. Placental extract has been used in certain cases and is found to produce a very definite modification of the disease, but in our experience it does not appear to provide the complete protection which is necessary to control outbreaks in hospital wards.

Fortunately there was no serious outbreak of measles in the City during the year.

SWILLY ISOLATION HOSPITAL, PLYMOUTH.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

**General
Remarks.**

The City Isolation Hospital is an Institution of 175 beds used for the treatment of infectious diseases occurring in the City. Cases of notifiable infectious disease are admitted from outside authorities when there is accommodation available for them, on payment of full maintenance and transport costs.

Recently an agreement has been reached with the local authorities of Torpoint, Saltash and St. Germans, whereby a total of 13 beds are available at any time for the treatment of notifiable infectious disease from these areas.

A new cubicle block of 10 beds is now completed, and this will do much to remedy the acute shortage of cubicle accommodation from which the hospital has suffered in the past.

As before, the chief diseases treated in the hospital are diphtheria and scarlet fever ; but the cubicle blocks have been full to capacity during the year with many other diseases, such as Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis, Typhoid, Meningitis, Influenza, Dysentery, Erysipelas, Mumps, and cases for observation.

Every effort is made to take in cases of measles and whooping cough, with complications such as pneumonia, but this has not always been possible on account of shortage of beds. Doubtless the new block will help considerably in overcoming some of these difficulties.

In common with other Infectious Disease Hospitals throughout the country, the acute shortage of Nursing Staff has caused considerable anxiety at times and shows no signs at present of improvement. It was, therefore, found necessary to engage a number of private nurses, which increased the expenditure.

Scarlet Fever The total number of cases treated was exactly the same as in 1936—namely, 398. The disease continued to be generally mild, but some severe cases occurred. The average stay in hospital was 35.33 days.

The routine use of serum is still discontinued, and serum therapy is confined to those cases showing faucial involvement, high temperature, profuse nasal discharge or marked toxæmia.

An extensive trial of the sulphonamide group of drugs was undertaken, but the writer is not convinced that these cases have done any better than those treated by other methods, and their routine use in Scarlet Fever has ceased.

369 City cases were treated in the hospital.

The diagnosis was amended in the following cases:--

Toxic erythema	...	...	...	8
Rubella	...	...	...	1
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	3
Scabies	...	...	...	1
Urticaria	...	...	...	1
Acute nephritis and abscess			...	1
Paraffin dermatitis			...	1
Diphtheria	...	...	...	1

Of this number admitted to hospital five were found to be suffering from diphtheria as well as scarlet fever.

The number of return cases i.e. cases from the same ramily notified within 28 days of the discharge of a patient, was 3—less than 1 per cent.

Outside City Cases.

The following cases of scarlet fever were admitted from the undermentioned districts:—

		<i>Admissions.</i>	<i>Amended diagnosis.</i>
Plympton	...	12	1 Toxic Erythema.
Outside Military	...	2	—
Lostwithiel	...	2	—
Torpoint	...	3	1 Tonsillitis.
Saltash	...	1	—
Launceston	...	5	—
Tavistock	...	2	—
Kingsbridge	...	2	—
		—	—
		29 & baby	2
		==	==

The total cases admitted as scarlet fever and treated at Swilly were:—

Plymouth residents	...	...	369
Outside City cases	...	...	29 and baby with mother.
			398
			" "

Of these, 17 Plymouth and 2 outside City cases proved not to be scarlet fever.

Complications.

Complications occurred in the following cases:—

Adenitis	...	...	...	...	32
Otorrhœa	...	...	...	...	20
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	11
Acute Nephritis	...	...	...	...	4
Rhinorrhœa	...	...	...	...	32
Mastoiditis requiring operation	...	...	...	...	5
Relapse	...	...	...	...	2
Blepharitis	...	...	...	...	1
Herpes	...	...	...	...	2
Periostitis	...	...	...	...	1
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	3
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	1
Catarrhal Jaundice	...	...	...	...	1

Deaths. There was one death from scarlet fever, a child aged 1 year 6 months, with acute endocarditis.

Diphtheria. The number of cases of diphtheria notified and treated in the hospital showed a great drop—319 as against 446 in 1936.

The disease was, on the whole, of a milder type and showed a death-rate of nearly 6% as against nearly 9% during 1936.

Many cases, however, were of a severe type, and after nearly two years' experience I am convinced of the great value of intra-venous serum and glucose in these cases.

As much confidence is still placed in the infallibility of the "swab" in diagnosis, 225 cases of undoubted clinical diphtheria each had a minimum of 6 swabs taken on admission to hospital. The swabbing was carefully carried out by the technique recommended at the London County Council hospitals. In only 48 cases,

i.e. 21%, were one or more of the swabs returned as “positive”—showing that no great reliance can be placed on a “negative” result and that early clinical diagnosis is still of the greatest importance.

277 cases were treated at Swilly Hospital, these being notified from the City.

In addition to these cases, there were 42 admitted from districts outside the Plymouth area, as under:—

	<i>Admissions.</i>		<i>Amended diagnosis.</i>
Plympton	...	21	(Catarrhal laryngitis, 1, Diphtheria-Scarlet, 1, Diphtheria & Measles, 2.
Outside Military	...	1	—
Lostwithiel	...	3	—
Torpoint	...	1	—
St. Germans	...	1	Tonsillitis and nephritis.
Liskeard	...	4	—
Camelford	...	1	—
Wadebridge	...	3	—
Launceston	...	3	—
Tavistock	...	1	—
Kingsbridge	...	2	—
Port Sanitary	...	1	—
		—	—
		42	5
		==	==

Disproved diagnosis.—After observation, the diagnosis was altered in the following Plymouth cases:—

Scabies	...	...	...	...	1
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	24
Follicular tonsillitis and adenitis	...	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	8
Streptococcal sore throat	...	...	...	...	9
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	2
Catarrhal laryngitis	...	...	...	...	3
Streptococcal adenitis	...	...	...	...	1
Post-tonsillectomy slough	...	...	...	...	1
Also found suffering from Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	6
Cross infection	...	...	...	...	1
Contracted Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	1

Return Cases.—There were no return cases.

Complications

Otorrhœa	...	...	...	...	9
Alveolar abscess	...	...	...	...	1
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	3
Cervical Adenitis	...	...	...	...	6
Palatal Paresis	...	...	...	...	15
Squint	...	...	...	...	4
Nasal Intonation	...	...	...	...	6
Tonsillitis	...	...	...	...	5
Albuminuria	...	...	...	...	3
Cardiac	...	...	...	...	25
Other Palsies	...	...	...	...	15

Laryngeal Diphtheria.—There was a further drop in the incidence of laryngeal diphtheria, 11 cases being notified as against 17 last year. Of these cases, 4 were suffering from laryngitis other than diphtheria.

Of the 7 true cases, 4 required tracheotomy, 2 of which died. These were both hopeless cases from the first, and tracheotomy was only performed to relieve the distressing symptoms of respiratory obstruction.

Deaths from Diphtheria.—16 Plymouth cases and 3 outside the district cases died as a result of diphtheria during the year, a mortality of nearly 6%.

Other Diseases.

Good use was made of the available accommodation during the year, and 60 other cases from Plymouth and 18 cases from outside areas were treated, as shown in the accompanying table.

During the year a good many notifications of Anterior Poliomyelitis were made in the County. Many visits to suspected cases in Plymouth were made, and other cases were admitted to this hospital for investigation. Two cases occurred in Plymouth and two cases were taken from other areas, one of which died.

Nine cases of Typhoid Fever were treated, five of them from the City and four from other districts, one of which died. Several other cases were admitted for observation, but proved to be suffering from diseases other than Typhoid.

Cerebro-spinal Meningitis—Meningococcal.

The routine used at this hospital in the treatment of the above disease is:—

1. Intrathecal injection of serum—both polyvalent anti-bacterial serum and Ferry's antitoxin.
2. Intravenous administration of both of the above.

3. Intra-muscular injection of above where (2) is impossible owing to age.
4. Intra-muscular injection of patients' own cerebro-spinal fluid.
5. Intrathecal, intra-muscular and oral administration of drugs of the sulphonamide group.

It was considered advisable to use all the methods at one's disposal and not confine each case to any one particular line of treatment.

During 1937, four patients were treated, all of whom died despite every effort at treatment. All of them were very ill on admission; their ages were 11 months, 49 years, 5 months, and 3 years. In 1936, three cases were treated on similar lines, two of whom made a rapid and complete recovery.

Plymouth cases were notified, admitted and treated as follows:

Amended diagnosis.

Influenza	6	
Quinsey	1	
Dysentery	2	
Tonsillitis	2	
C.S. Meningitis	4	
Observation	6	Influenza, 2; Hysteria, 1; Acute Strep. sore throat, 1; T.B. Interlobar Pleurisy, 1; Strep. Throat, 1.
Pneumonia, etc.	4	
Erysipelas	9	
Mumps	1	
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	4	Cerebellar tumour, 1; T.B. Hip, 1.
Encephalitis Lethargica...	2	Specific Encephalitis, 1.
Typhoid	5	
Measles, etc.	9	
Infective Arthritis	1	
Chicken pox	1	
Scabies	1	
Strep. sore throat	1	
Sciatica	1	

60

Outside the district cases were notified, admitted and treated as follows:—

Amended diagnosis.

Tonsillitis	...	...	1	
Erysipelas	...	...	3	
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	6	Infective Polyneuritis, 1 ; Dis-	
			seminated Sclerosis, 1 ; Scarlet	
			Fever, 1 ; Influenza, 1.	
Measles	...	...	1	
Appendicitis & Whooping				
Cough	...	...	1	This case was operated on under
				a general anæsthetic in the
				cubicle block.
Typhoid	...	...	6	Enteritis, 1 ; Pectoral abscess, 1.

—
18
=

Deaths from other Diseases:—

Plymouth cases	...	...	...	...	6
Outside cases	...	...	...	...	4
<i>Plymouth.</i>					
Meningococcal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	3
Lobar pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
Lung Abscess, Lobar Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	1
<i>Outside Districts.</i>					
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	1
Typhoid	...	...	...	...	1
Measles Encephalomyelitis	...	...	...	...	1
Anterior Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	1

VACCINATION.

The following table gives details of vaccinations carried out during the past five years:—

Year	Births	Primary vaccinations	Percentage of Children vaccinated	Re-vaccinations
1933	3232	1325	41·0	17
1934	3203	1371	42·8	9
1935	3065	1270	41·4	18
1936	3061	1348	44·0	24
1937	3325	1262	37·9	12

Year	Completed Course of Injections	SCHICK TESTS AFTER COURSE OF INJECTIONS						RE-SCHICK TESTS		IMMUNISED AND SCHICK NEGATIVE CHILDREN REPORTED TO HAVE CONTRACTED DIPHTHERIA	
		Carried Out	Not Read	Nega- tive	Positive	Per cent. Positive	No.	Nega- tive	Confirmed	Not Confirmed	
1927	330	264	11	231	22	9	11	11	—	—	
1928	296	56	—	50	6	12	6	6	1	3	
1929	390	458	—	333	125	27	76	76	—	2	
1930	444	511	23	434	54	10	24	24	—	—	
1931	1282	527	2	486	39	8	28	28	—	—	
1932	1107	1137	10	1008	119	9	43	43	1	—	
1933	972	997	9	906	82	8	58	55	3	4	
1934	(a) 335	330	9	314	7	2	4	4	—	5	
1934	(b) 363	324	17	289	18	5	11	11	—	8	
1935	(a) 874	830	28	791	11	1.3	8	8	—	9	
1935	(b) 1244	1300	108	1149	43	3.3	10	10	2	5	
1936	(a) 662	641	28	609	4	0.65	2	2	3	5	
1936	(b) 1104	779	52	702	25	3.4	—	—	4	3	
1937	(a) 500	506	18	469	19	3.8	11	8	(c) 3	—	
1937	(b) 1035	1004	69	904	31	3.3	1	1	3	—	
Totals ...	10938	9664	384	8675	605	6.5	293	287	23	44	

(a) At M. and C.W. Centres.

(b) At Schools.

(c) Immunised elsewhere.

DEATHS FROM DIPHTHERIA, SCARLET FEVER, MEASLES AND WHOOPING COUGH
 IN THE PERIOD 1920—1937.
 SHOWING DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ESTIMATED POPULATION.

Year	Population (Estimated)	DIPHTHERIA			SCARLET FEVER			MEASLES			WHOOPING-COUGH		
		No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns	No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns	No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns	No. of deaths	Death rate per 1,000 population	Death rate per 1,000 popula- tion in County Boroughs and Great Towns
1920	189,218	37	0·19	0·16	1	0·005	0·04	35	0·18	0·22	33	0·17	0·14
1921	199,860	13	0·06	0·15	5	0·02	0·04	3	0·01	0·08	11	0·05	0·13
1922	200,370	15	0·07	0·13	3	0·01	0·05	46	0·22	0·22	21	0·10	0·19
1923	211,500	11	0·05	0·09	1	0·004	0·03	6	0·028	0·15	8	0·037	0·11
1924	206,600	22	0·10	0·08	1	0·004	0·03	26	0·09	0·18	31	0·15	0·24
1925	211,078	8	0·03	0·08	3	0·01	0·03	3	0·01	0·17	15	0·07	0·18
1926	211,350	34	0·16	0·10	2	0·009	0·02	19	0·09	0·12	14	0·06	0·10
1927	211,650	23	0·10	0·08	4	0·01	0·02	1	0·004	0·11	13	0·06	0·10
1928	211,980	32	0·15	0·09	2	0·009	0·02	78	0·36	0·15	5	0·02	0·04
1929	213,500	26	0·12	0·09	4	0·01	0·02	4	0·01	0·12	23	0·10	0·19
1930	215,000	21	0·09	0·09	6	0·02	0·02	29	0·13	0·14	4	0·01	0·05
1931	208,166	17	0·08	0·07	3	0·01	0·01	3	0·01	0·10	11	0·05	0·07
1932	208,440	20	0·09	0·07	10	0·04	0·02	6	0·02	0·11	16	0·07	0·08
1933	206,200	18	0·08	0·08	3	0·01	0·02	14	0·06	0·06	14	0·06	0·06
1934	203,450	15	0·07	0·12	2	0·009	0·02	14	0·06	0·12	17	0·08	0·06
1935	203,600	23	0·11	0·09	1	0·004	0·01	6	0·029	0·04	3	0·014	0·04
1936	206,400	40	0·19	0·08	1	0·004	0·01	4	0·01	0·09	19	0·09	0·06
1937	210,460	17	0·08	0·08	1	0·004	0·01	1	0·004	0·03	3	0·01	0·04

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED, 1937—AGE GROUPS.

Diseases.	0-1 years.	1-2 years.	2-3 years.	3-4 years.	4-5 years.	5-10 years.	10-15 years.	15-20 years.	20-35 years.	35-45 years.	45-65 years.	65 years up.	Totals.	1st Quarter.	2nd Quarter.	3rd Quarter.	4th Quarter.	Admitted to Swilly Hospital.	Isolated Home.	Admitted Other Institutions.	Nursing Homes	Naval	Military	Royal Air Force
Scarlet Fever	2	15	17	47	48	222	51	18	27	6	—	—	453	91	83	93	186	358	94	1	—	2	—	—
Diphtheria	8	17	15	18	26	100	45	15	22	6	—	—	272	89	44	44	95	269	3	—	—	—	3	Carriers
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	—	—	5	—	3	1	1	5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia	13	10	8	7	12	26	5	11	26	26	60	21	225	106	44	24	51	5	129	91	—	—	—	—
*Puerperal Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	2	—	—	17	2	10	5	—	—	1	15	1	—	—	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	30	7	—	—	41	6	9	7	19	1	10	19	12	—	—	—
Cerebro-Spinal Meningitis	2	—	—	2	—	2	1	—	—	1	—	—	8	1	3	2	2	4	1	3	—	2	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	3	2	1	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Polio-Encephalitis...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	—	1	—	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum...	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	17	6	4	4	3	See	separate	table	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	4	1	—	1	1	1	2	3	7	4	22	5	51	13	13	11	14	9	—	9	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary Tuberculosis...	See	separate	table	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	225	60	59	51	55	See	separate	table	—	—	—	—
Non-Pulmon'y Tuberculosis	See	separate	table	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	52	15	14	8	15	See	separate	table	—	—	—	—
Summer Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	6	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8	—	2	4	2	—	6	2	—	—	—	—
Totals	52	45	40	75	88	354	105	52	131	53	83	26	1381	389	289	254	449	655	246	141	13	5	3	—

*Puerperal Fever : The notification of this disease was rescinded from 1st October, 1937.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES NOTIFIED. WARD DISTRIBUTION, 1937.

Diseases.	Compton.	Mutley.	Pennycross.	Laira.	Charles.	Friary.	Sutton.	Vintry.	Drake.	St. Andrew's.	St. Peter's.	Valletort.	Mount Edgumbe.	Molesworth.	St. Budeaux.	Ford.	Nelson.	Keyham.	St. Aubyn.	Stoke.	Totals.
Scarlet Fever	16	19	48	17	26	18	20	22	30	16	41	34	12	31	12	20	20	18	19	14	453
Diphtheria	5	—	12	24	14	17	8	7	15	10	34	19	22	13	17	14	6	10	23	2	272
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	5
Pneumonia	7	3	16	11	10	7	7	10	13	7	13	16	15	20	13	7	16	8	24	2	225
*Puerperal Fever	2	—	2	—	3	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	17
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	2	1	1	1	3	1	2	2	1	2	4	2	2	4	2	4	3	3	—	41
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1	2	—	—	—	1	1	8
Acute Poliomyelitis	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	3
Acute Polio-Encephalitis	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	2
Dysentery	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	1	3	1	—	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	17
Erysipelas	2	—	3	1	5	4	2	2	2	4	2	2	—	5	2	1	6	3	4	1	51
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary	7	12	18	15	8	7	7	13	16	13	8	9	14	16	10	18	6	7	10	11	225
Non-Pulmonary	1	1	5	4	3	3	—	4	3	1	4	3	3	5	2	3	—	1	6	—	52
Summer Diarrhoea (under 2 years)	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	3	—	8
Totals	44	40	108	73	71	60	46	64	85	53	108	89	74	95	62	65	59	51	100	34	1381
Attack rate per 1,000 population, based on 1931 Census Ward figures	5.6	4.5	8.1	6.2	6.5	5.5	4.9	5.6	8.8	6.8	9.3	10.1	7.3	6.7	10.2	6.6	5.3	3.5	6.7	5.1	6.6

* The notification of Puerperal Fever was rescinded from 1st October, 1937.

Venereal Diseases

Venereal Diseases Department

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER IN CHARGE

The figures of the year's work show a marked similarity to those of previous years and the table gives a ready method of comparison over the last three years.

Syphilis. The decline in the number of primary and secondary cases is still maintained, only twelve cases occurring during 1937 as against eighteen in 1936. This is a remarkable figure for the area which the clinic serves, particularly when there is such a large floating population.

Chancroid. Only six cases were noted during the year. Excellent results were obtained by the intravenous use of Dmelcos vaccine, the sore healing very rapidly.

Gonorrhoea. The number of cases treated has been remarkably constant for a number of years, and it is doubtful whether in future these figures will show any improvement. On the whole patients attend very well and the defaulters are not numerous. A trial of the sulphonamide group of drugs has been made, chiefly on in-patients, but it is yet too early to judge the results. It appears to me that large scale treatment of out-patients by this means has definite disadvantages in that

1. The method is not entirely without risk, particularly if the patient is not intelligent.

2. If symptoms clear up rapidly, as they do in some cases, patients will cease to attend and will not have their tests of cure.

3. It is possible to buy these drugs "over the counter," and therefore lead to self treatment.

4. The very fact of having to attend regularly for treatment impresses the patient with the seriousness of the disease, and incidentally enables the Medical Officer to keep him under observation more satisfactorily.

Non-Venereal. The large number of patients who suspected they were suffering from venereal disease and who, after investigation, were found to be "clear," shows that the public generally realises the seriousness of these diseases and are anxious to obtain early treatment. Another good thing from the public health point of view is that a considerable number of men attend for "marriage tests," in consequence of which useful advice has been imparted to those found not fit.

**In-Patient
Treatment.**

The department is fortunate in having twelve beds available for the treatment of V.D., both in men and women. The beds were used considerably during the year, 66 patients being admitted. As before, the type of cases requiring in-patient treatment are

1. Acute infectious syphilis. Every endeavour is made to admit these patients until free of infection.

2. Patients living in remote parts where daily treatment is impossible.

3. Seamen, British and foreign.

4. Pregnant women suffering from infectious V.D.

**Ophthalmia
Neonatorum.**

Sixteen of these cases were treated during the year. Several of them were very severe cases, and two required operative treatment for complications which ensued. The whole subject of ophthalmia neonatorum was investigated very closely, both from the administrative and clinical point of view, and a scheme was formulated whereby in severe cases treatment could be obtained for these babies as in-patients at the Royal Eye Infirmary, Plymouth.

NEW CASES

Year	Syphilis				Chancroid				Gonorrhoea				Non-Venereal Disease				Totals			
	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals
1935	106	14	15	135	11	-	1	12	267	26	27	320	260	23	24	307	644	63	67	774
1936	86	6	7	99	3	-	1	4	270	25	38	333	232	28	33	293	591	59	79	729
1937	85	7	7	99	5	-	1	6	247	27	38	312	256	17	24	297	593	51	70	714

GENERAL STATISTICS

Year	In-Patient Days Treatment				Ophthalmia Neonatorum Days Treatment				Pathological Specimens				Arsenical Injections				Bismuth Injections				Out-Patient Attendances			
	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Totals	Plymouth	Devon	Cornwall	Total
1935	1254	553	688	2495	70	12	173	255	2031	141	154	2326	1238	165	140	1543	1539	184	166	1889	19798	778	734	21310
1936	1507	354	690	2551	199	17	120	336	1946	118	225	2289	1048	109	166	1323	1338	132	170	1640	18576	845	777	20198
1937	1441	40	1059	2540	107	—	217	324	2311	168	238	2717	959	143	109	1211	1231	159	148	1538	17675	981	682	19338

Tuberculosis

Tuberculosis

REPORT OF THE TUBERCULOSIS OFFICER.

Notifications. During the year 1937, 277 cases were notified. Of this number, 225 (129 males and 96 females) were certified to be suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 52 (22 males and 30 females) were notified as Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

The details of these notifications during the year are shown as follows :—

<i>Age Periods</i>	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>		<i>Respiratory</i>		<i>Non-Respiratory</i>	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1—	—	—	5	4	1	—	4	1
5—	8	9	6	2	—	—	—	1
15—	18	21	4	7	18	13	1	3
25—	41	45	6	10	23	17	2	2
35—	25	11	—	2	15	7	1	—
45—	20	4	—	2	19	5	—	—
55—	15	4	—	3	11	8	—	—
65 and upwards	2	2	1	—	5	5	—	—
TOTALS ...	129	96	22	30	92	55	8	7

Of these notifications for the year 1937, 201 were diagnosed at the Tuberculosis Dispensary before notification, 26 were invalided from the Services, and 40 were notified from general hospitals in Plymouth.

The numbers on the Notification Register at the end of the year were :—

PULMONARY			NON-PULMONARY			TOTAL CASES
<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>	
544	461	1005	140	175	315	1320

Deaths. There were 162 deaths from Tuberculosis during the year, 147 (92 males and 55 females) being attributed to Pulmonary Tuberculosis, and 15 (8 males and 7 females) due to Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

This figure shews an increase of 10 in the number of deaths compared with the previous year.

The following table shews the number of primary notifications of tuberculosis and deaths from that disease, with the rate per 1,000 of the population, since the year 1930 :—

	NOTIFICATIONS				DEATHS			
				<i>Rate per 1000 Pop.</i>				<i>Rate per 1000 Pop.</i>
<i>Year</i>	<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non- Pul.</i>	<i>Total</i>		<i>Pul.</i>	<i>Non- Pul.</i>	<i>Total</i>	
1930 ...	252	76	328	1·52	167	33	200	0·93
1931 ...	320	62	382	1·83	157	38	195	0·93
1932 ...	273	70	343	1·64	162	31	193	0·92
1933 ...	253	58	311	1·50	163	15	178	0·86
1934 ...	246	63	309	1·51	177	31	208	1·02
1935 ...	217	54	271	1·33	114	30	144	0·70
1936 ...	204	51	255	1·23	125	27	152	0·73
1937 ...	225	52	277	1·31	147	15	162	0·76

During the year 1937 there were 11 Posthumous Notifications, and these were composed of 5 Pulmonary and 6 Non-Pulmonary cases. This gives a ratio of approximately 1 : 15.

The following table shows the prognosis of all new positive sputa cases who have been notified since 1930 :—

Year	Died during 1930-36	Died during 1937	Removed from area, "lost sight of," etc. 1930-36	Removed from area "lost sight of" etc. 1937.	Remaining on Register 1937.	Total
1930	80	2	25	3	20	130
1931	73	1	42	4	26	146
1932	92	7	26	3	39	167
1933	68	6	20	3	34	131
1934	63	8	8	5	28	112
1935	38	10	6	4	58	116
1936	25	29	3	2	55	114
1937	—	26	—	3	100	129

There were 993 New Cases sent to the Dispensary
Dispensary. by Medical Practitioners during the year, and this
 is 112 more than the previous year.

The following table shows the number of cases referred to the Tuberculosis Officer each year since 1930 and the number of contacts who have been examined for the same period, together with the result of the clinical examinations :—

Year	NEW CASES				CONTACTS			
	Total exam- ined	Defin- itely Tuber	Non- Tuber	Diagnosis not com- pleted	Total exam- ined	Defin- itely Tuber	Non- Tuber	Diagnosis not com- pleted
1930	662	268	201	193	841	8	781	52
1931	762	303	401	58	767	21	695	51
1932	770	288	402	80	844	10	792	42
1933	860	276	521	63	713	6	654	53
1934	913	256	561	96	862	17	759	86
1935	894	243	574	77	778	10	749	19
1936	881	231	559	91	427	8	386	33
1937	993	266	649	78	436	8	411	17

Attendances. The number of attendances of patients at the Tuberculosis Dispensaries during the year totalled 10,665.

Since 1930 the attendances have been as follows :—

1930	...	...	...	...	14,093
1931	...	...	...	...	13,490
1932	...	...	...	...	13,246
1933	...	...	...	...	12,635
1934	...	...	...	...	12,945
1935	...	...	...	...	12,408
1936	...	...	...	...	10,212
1937	...	...	...	...	10,665

There were 23 cases of Artificial Pneumo-thorax who attended the Dispensary for 1937. The number of refills amounted to 217.

Evening Session. This clinic, held regularly throughout the year for the convenience of patients who are at work during the day, is still greatly appreciated.

Domiciliary Visiting. *Tuberculosis Officer.* The Tuberculosis Officer paid 756 domiciliary visits to patients in their homes during the year.

Nurses and Health Visitors. The Nurses and Health Visitors paid 4,266 visits to patients during the year.

Consultations. The following consultations were held by the Tuberculosis Officer during the year :—

Personal	...	...	...	...	216
Other than personal (T. 145)	...	...	...	...	802

Special Forms of Treatment. The Tuberculosis Officer gave the following special forms of treatment at the Dispensary during the year :—

Artificial Pneumo-thorax refills	...	...	217
Injections of Tuberculin	...	...	1,146

Laryngological Clinic The Laryngologist attached to the Tuberculosis Department holds one session every fortnight at the main Tuberculosis Dispensary. Treatment was given to 170 patients during the year.

It is with deep regret that I have to record the death of Dr. C. R. Crowther, who had been Laryngologist to the Department for so many years. He was respected by both patients and staff, and the Department has lost a most obliging and able colleague.

To his successor, Mr. R. Howarth, I feel sure that the same happy relations will be continued.

X Ray X-Ray examinations made during the year numbered 2,956. The following table shews the number of examinations made each year since 1930:—

1930	...	...	...	...	1942
1931	...	...	...	...	2109
1932	...	...	...	...	2543
1933	...	...	...	...	2792
1934	...	...	...	...	2737
1935	...	...	...	...	2824
1936	...	...	...	...	3005
1937	...	...	...	...	2956

Bacteriological Work. The number of specimens of sputa, etc., which still continue to be examined by the Pathologist at the Prince of Wales' Hospital, Greenbank, was 1,567. The following table shews the number of examinations made for the Tuberculosis Dispensaries since 1930:—

1930	...	...	...	...	1424
1931	...	...	...	...	1537
1932	...	...	...	...	1150
1933	...	...	...	...	1011
1934	...	...	...	...	1314
1935	...	...	...	...	1334
1936	...	...	...	...	1444
1937	...	...	...	...	1567

At the end of the year the following patients were on the " live " Dispensary Register:—

		ADULTS		CHILDREN		TOTALS
		Males	Females	Males	Females	
Pulmonary	...	467	332	46	50	895
Non-Pulmonary	...	40	59	48	34	181
TOTALS	...	507	391	94	84	1076
		898		178		

The trades or occupations of the 898 adult patients remaining on the Dispensary Register, on their first attendance at the Dispensary, was as shown in the accompanying table:—

Army, H.M.	8	Navy, H.M.—	
Royal Air Force	3	Stokers and Petty Officers ...	25
Bakers	3	Engine Room Artificers ...	8
Bootmakers	3	Shipwrights	7
Bricklayers	4	Able Seamen	18
Butchers	3	Others	25
City Corporation	15	No occupation	53
Clerical	50	Nurses	12
Carpenters and Joiners ...	9	Painters	10
H.M. Dockyard—		Post Office	9
Clerical	5	Plumbers	5
Trades	13	Police	6
Labourers	14	Porters	2
Others	13	Printing Trade	11
Dressmakers and Milliners ...	3	Railway Workers	7
Engineers	6	Scholars	12
Electrical Workers	14	Masons	5
Errand Boys and Girls ...	3	Shop Assistants—	
Farm Workers	3	Managers and Manageresses.	8
Fitters	2	Dairy	2
Hairdressers	5	Bakery and Confectionery ...	1
Hawkers	5	Other Foods	17
Housework and Domestics ...	207	Drapery, etc.	12
Hotel Workers	10	Others	38
Insurance Agents	3	Teachers	4
Labourers	26	Tailors and Tailoresses ...	12
Marines, Royal	6	Upholsterers	2
Machinists	6	Unemployed	22
Merchant Service	3	Waiters and Waitresses ...	9
Motor Trade	13	Warehousemen	6
Miscellaneous	91	Watchmakers	1
		TOTAL	898

Institutional Treatment Tuberculous patients who are recommended Institutional Treatment are admitted either to Didworthy Sanatorium, South Brent; Mount Gold Pulmonary and Orthopædic Hospital, or the City Hospital, Plymouth. The Reports of the Medical Officers of these Institutions appear in this Report.

In addition, we have 2 cases undergoing training at Papworth Village Settlement.

The results of Institutional Treatment are shown in the accompanying table:—

Classification on admission to the Institution.		Condition at time of discharge.	Duration of Residential Treatment in the Institution.															Grand Totals.			
			Under 3 mths. but exceeding 28 days.			3-6 months.			6-12 months.			More than 12 months.			Totals.						
			M. F. Ch.			M. F. Ch.			M. F. Ch.			M. F. Ch.			M. F. Ch.						
			M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Class T.B. minus.	Quiescent ...	...	—	—	—	3	9	—	8	3	3	3	7	1	14	19	4	37	
		Not quiescent ...	...	1	4	—	5	5	—	3	2	1	2	1	—	11	12	1	24	
		Died in Institution ...	...	4	2	—	2	1	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	6	6	—	12	
	Class T.B. plus. Group 1.	Quiescent ...	...	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	2	—	3	
		Not quiescent ...	...	1	3	—	1	—	—	4	2	—	1	1	—	7	6	—	13	
		Died in Institution ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	
	Class T.B. plus. Group 2.	Quiescent ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	2	
		Not quiescent ...	...	5	4	—	8	8	—	8	6	—	9	4	—	30	22	—	52	
		Died in Institution ...	...	4	2	—	—	3	—	3	—	—	1	—	—	8	5	—	13	
	Class T.B. plus. Group 3.	Quiescent ...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Not quiescent ...		...	3	4	—	7	—	—	6	6	—	1	—	1	17	10	1	28	
Died in Institution ...		...	4	4	—	3	1	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	9	5	—	14	
		TOTALS (pulmonary)	...	22	23	—	29	28	—	37	23	4	17	14	2	105	88	6	199		
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis			Bones and Joints.	Quiescent	—	7	1	2	1	1	2	3	1	—	1	5	4	12	8	24
				Not quiescent	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
				Died in Institution	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
			Abdominal.	Quiescent	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2
				Not quiescent	—	1	4	—	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	6	8
				Died in Institution	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			Other Organs.	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	1
				Not quiescent	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
				Died in Institution	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
			Peripheral Glands.	Quiescent	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1
Not quiescent ...	...	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	2		
Died in Institution ...	...	—		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—		
		TOTALS (non-pulmonary)	...	2	9	6	2	2	4	5	6	1	1	1	5	10	18	16	44		

The extent to which “ observation ” beds were used during 1937 is as shown hereunder:—

Diagnosis on discharge from observation	FOR PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS						FOR NON-PULMONARY TUBERCULOSIS						TOTALS							
	Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks			Stay under 4 weeks			Stay over 4 weeks										
	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.	M.	F.	Ch.					
Tuberculous ...	—	—	—	2	1	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	5			
Non-Tuberculous ...	—	—	1	1	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	5			
Doubtful ...	1	—	1	—	2	2	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	2	4			
TOTALS ...	1	—	2	3	4	6	1	1	1	1	—	5	—	—	5	5	14			

The extent of Residential Treatment and Observation during the year was as follows :—

	<i>In Institu- tions on Jan 1st</i>	<i>Admitted during the year</i>	<i>Discharged during the year</i>	<i>Died in the Institu- tions</i>	<i>In Institu- tions on Dec. 31st</i>
Number of doubtfully tuberculous cases ad- mitted for observation	Adult males ...	3	4	1	2
	Adult females...	6	5	—	2
	Children ...	13	14	—	10
	Total ...	22	23	1	14
Number of patients suffering from pul- monary tuberculosis	Adult males ...	133	92	41	73
	Adult females...	102	76	21	57
	Children ...	8	6	—	10
	Total ...	243	174	62	140
Number of patients suffering from non- pulmonary tubercu- losis	Adult males ...	7	10	—	6
	Adult females...	25	25	—	5
	Children ...	18	16	1	19
	Total ...	50	51	1	30
GRAND TOTAL	181	315	248	64	184

**Voluntary
Organisations**

Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee. This organisation works under the ægis of the Public Health Committee, with the Medical Officer of Health and the Tuberculosis Officer as Honorary Medical Officers, the City Treasurer as Honorary Treasurer, and the Head Clerk of the Tuberculosis Dispensary as Secretary.

This committee, with its band of over 30 voluntary workers, still continues to do good work. During the year, 406 cases were assisted. This is the highest number of cases since the inception of the committee. The assistance granted took the form of monetary grants, extra nourishment, groceries, bedding, clothing, footwear, etc.

Council of Social Services. This committee continues to work in close co-operation with the Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee, and I am much obliged to its Secretary, Miss M. A. Glover, for the valuable help she has given from time to time.

MOUNT GOLD TUBERCULOSIS AND ORTHOPÆDIC HOSPITAL.

REPORT OF MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

1937.

The constitution of the hospital remains unchanged, namely two sections, one for the treatment of orthopædic cases and one for the treatment of advanced and intermediate pulmonary tuberculosis, containing respectively 120 and 80 beds, making a total of 200 beds in all.

The work in each section will be described under separate headings.

**Pulmonary
Tuberculosis
Section**

During the year, 127 patients have been admitted and 44 have been discharged, and there have been 60 deaths. The condition of 44 patients on discharge was as follows:—quiescent, 1 (2.2%); very much improved, 23 (52.3%); no material improvement, 20 (45.5%).

The total number of in-patient days was 25,713, with an average length of stay of 95 days. The percentage of bed patients was 60.3%.

Unfortunately very many of the cases were admitted in the later stages of the disease. In three cases sufficient improvement took place to warrant their transfer to Didworthy Sanatorium. During the year, 41 patients have received treatment with one or other of the gold preparations, a total of 529 injections being given.

Five patients received collapse therapy (artificial pneumothorax), and the number of refills given during the year was 58.

Of the 60 deaths which occurred, seven died within one week of admission, six during the second week, and five during the third and fourth weeks. From these figures it will be seen that 18 (30%) of the deaths occurred within the first four weeks in hospital.

During the year, 43 X-Ray examinations were carried out at Beaumont House. 334 sputum examinations were made, and 15 other specimens were sent for pathological examinations.

The Dental Surgeon visits the hospital once a fortnight and gives treatment to any patients who may require it.

Orthopaedic Section. The general arrangements for the work of this section of the hospital remain unchanged from previous years.

The admissions continue to show a steady increase, as shown in the following table:—

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
<i>Plymouth Cases.</i>					
Tuberculosis Department...	36	40	43	48	55
M. & C.W. Department ...	25	18	26	13	16
School Medical Department	20	19	22	23	33
Other Plymouth Cases ...	76	63	44	24	16
Total Plymouth Cases ...	157	140	135	108	120
<i>Non-Plymouth Cases.</i>					
Devon County Council ...	42	34	25	23	30
Cornwall County Council...	13	12	12	18	1
Exeter City	4	5	2	2	3
Devonian Association for Cripples' Aid	36	44	34	—	—
Other Cases	59	55	59	61	15
Total Non-Plymouth Cases	154	150	132	104	49
Grand total of Admissions	311	290	267	212	169
Total Discharges ...	297	279	270	188	78

The following table gives a comparison of the classification of the cases admitted during the last five years:—

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
1. Tuberculosis of Bone ...	85	72	65	53	98
2. After Results of Anterior Poliomyelitis	11	12	17	20	16
3. Deformities—Congenital and Acquired	70	56	58	52	10
4. After results of Injuries ...	49	43	28	22	1
5. Chronic Non-T.B. Arthritis	43	47	49	25	13
6. Chronic and Acute Non-T.B. Osteomyelitis ...	5	15	3	3	8
7. Rickets	—	8	19	11	11
8. Diseases and Injuries of the Peripheral Nerve & Spinal Cord	—	9	3	10	—
9. Other conditions	29	28	25	14	12

The total number of patient days was 36,113, and the average duration of stay was 91 days per patient. The corresponding figures for 1936 were 35,702 and 123 respectively. The percentage of bed patients was 85%.

The following table also gives a comparative study of the work carried out since the Hospital was opened:—

	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933
Surgical operations	138	169	170	182	176
Manipulations under anæsthesia	74	79	78	88	52
X-Ray examinations ...	446	391	383	370	—
Aspirations	76	70	80	87	65
Pathological examinations ...	50	72	38	51	29

The Victor X-Ray plant continues to prove a very useful asset to hospital work. The following table gives an analysis of the X-Rays taken in the first complete year's working of the plant:—

			<i>In</i>	<i>Out</i>
			<i>Patients.</i>	<i>Patients.</i>
Tuberculosis Department	...		114	27
M. & C.W. Department	...		23	9
School Medical Department	...		4	—
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	50	43
Devon County Council	...	...	75	—
Corrwall County Council	...		15	—
Devonian Association for				
Cripples' Aid	...	...	24	—
Devon Public Assistance	...		4	2
Exeter City	...	...	1	—
Cornwall Public Assistance	...		1	—
Private	...	...	33	1
Staff	...	...	6	—
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			350	82
			<hr/>	<hr/>

Total number of films used = 674.

Out Patient Clinic Mr. Capener holds this clinic twice a month (second and fourth Fridays) for consultative and “ follow up ” work. Treatment of Out Patients is carried on daily, and details are given below. Once again, I would draw attention to the need for increased accommodation for this purpose.

Out Patient and Massage Department.

Number of initial examinations by Surgeon ... 164
 Number of subsequent examinations by Surgeon ... 494
 New patients (164) who attended were sent by the following Authorities:—

Tuberculosis Department	...	...	...	16
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	...	58
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	...	66
Plymouth Public Assistance	...	...		10
Private Cases (Patients residing outside the				
City area)	...	...	...	8
Cornwall County Council (School Medical				
Department)	...	...	...	6

Treatments given by the Massage Department staff:—

				<i>No. of</i>	<i>No. of</i>
				<i>Patients.</i>	<i>Treatments.</i>
1. <i>In Patients.</i>					
Tuberculosis Department	...	...	...	19	897
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	...	11	567
School Medical Department	...	...	...	11	653
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	...	32	1773
Devon County Council	...	...	...	16	345
Cornwall County Council	...	...	...	2	85
Devonian Association for Cripples'					
Aid	...	...	...	17	365
Devon Public Assistance	...	...	...	2	45
Cornwall County Council					
(School Medical Department)	...	...	...	5	289
Private	...	...	...	17	346
					<hr/>
					5365
					<hr/>
2. <i>Out Patients.</i>					
Tuberculosis Department	...	...	...	...	66
M. & C.W. Department	...	...	...	...	288
School Medical Department	...	...	...	...	131
Other Plymouth Cases	...	...	...	...	1291
Cornwall County Council					
(School Medical Department)	...	...	...	...	112
Private	...	...	...	...	89
					<hr/>
					1977
					<hr/>

The total number of *Artificial Sunlight* treatments given by the carbon arc lamp was 164.

During the year seven patients have received gold treatment (myocrisin) for chronic non-tuberculous arthritis. In addition, eight patients received aureotherapy for other conditions. The average course has been 5 grammes.

Active Immunisation against diphtheria is carried out as a routine in all children who have not been immunised before admission. The number of children immunised during the year was 35.

There have been no cases of infectious disease in the hospital during 1937.

51 Appliances have been supplied during the year.

**Orthopaedic
Hospital
School**

The good work carried out in the school continues as in previous years. The school was re-opened on 5th January, 1937, with 38 pupils (21 boys and 17 girls). During the year there were 57 new entries (29 boys and 28 girls), making a total of 95 children who received instruction during the year. Of these, 55 were discharged, leaving 40 on the register on 22nd December. Of the 95 who attended school during the year, 57 were of normal school age and 38 of nursery school age.

The school was opened 404 times, with a total attendance of 15,066, making an average attendance of 37.29 out of a possible attendance of 37.54.

The out-of-school activities of the children are catered for by a Boy Scout Troop and Wolf Cub Pack registered as the 39th Plymouth, and a Girl Guide Troop and Brownie Pack.

We have been fortunate enough to be able to purchase a 16 m/m Gebescope Talkie Film Apparatus. This is largely due to the generous assistance of the Tuberculosis Care and After-Care Committee. We are able to show films in all the wards of the Hospital, and the entertainment has been much enjoyed by all the patients. In addition, several concerts have been given throughout the year in the wards of the Hospital by various concert parties and artistes. These concerts have been very greatly appreciated.

DIDWORTHY SANATORIUM.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

Total beds available : 100 (50 for men, 30 for women, 10 for boys and 10 for girls).

Admissions. The total number of admissions for the year was 135. 63 men, 53 women, 11 boys and 8 girls, of whom 132 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 1 man, 1 woman and 1 boy were sent by the County of Cornwall.

Classification of admissions.

	<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	
Pulmonary minus cases	19	22	4	4	36.3%
Pulmonary Plus 1 cases	8	6	—	—	10.4%
Pulmonary Plus 2 cases	30	15	1	1	34.8%
Pulmonary Plus 3 cases	3	2	—	—	3.7%
Non-Pulmonary cases...	1	7	4	3	11.1%
Observation cases ...	2	1	2	—	3.7%

Discharges The total number of discharges for the year was 121. 55 men, 51 women, 7 boys and 8 girls, of whom 119 were sent by the City of Plymouth, and 1 man and 1 woman were sent by the County of Cornwall.

Classification of discharges.

				<i>Men.</i>	<i>Women.</i>	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent	... ..	13	16	3	3
Minus	{	Very much improved		4	5	—	—
group	{	Not improved	... ..	1	—	—	—
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent	... ..	2	1	—	—
Plus 1	{	Very much improved		4	6	—	—
group	{	Not improved	... ..	—	—	—	—
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent	... ..	—	4	—	—
Plus 2	{	Very much improved		24	7	—	—
group	{	Not improved	... ..	—	2	—	—
Pulmonary	{	Quiescent	... ..	—	—	—	—
Plus 3	{	Very much improved		1	—	—	—
group	{	Not improved	... ..	2	2	—	—
Non-	{	Quiescent	... ..	—	1	1	1
Pulmonary	{	Very much improved		2	6	1	—
	{	Not improved		—	—	1	1
Observation		... ..	... ..	1	1	1	3
Deaths		... ..	... ..	1	—	—	—

Summarising this, we get the following:—

- 34.71% cases discharged “ Quiescent ” (Pulmonary).
- 42.15% ca.es discharged “ Very much improved ” (Pulmonary).
- 5.78% cases discharged “ Not improved ” (Pulmonary).
- 4.13% cases discharged “ Observation ” (Non-Tuberculous).
- 2.48% cases discharged “ Quiescent ” (Non-Pulmonary).
- 7.43% cases discharged “ Very much improved ” (Non-Pulmonary).
- 1.65% cases discharged “ Not improved ” (Non-Pulmonary).
- 0.82% “ Death.”

Bed Occupation The total number of patient days for the year was 34,339.

An average struck over the whole year shows the average bed occupation to have been 94.08. The average length of stay of cases discharged during the year was 280.08 days.

The total number of bed patient days was 8,516, which represents 24.8% patients in bed daily of the total number of cases treated.

**Comparison
with previous
year.**

In 1936, 109 patients were admitted and 116 patients were discharged, and in this year 135 patients were admitted and 121 patients were discharged.

**Pathological
Tests.**

The total number of sputum examinations during the year was 435.

The total number of urine examinations during the year was 814.

The drinking water used in the Institution from all sources of supply is bacteriologically analysed every three months and has always been found to be of very good standard.

The milk produced at the Institution and the milk supplied by the Contractors has been periodically bacteriologically analysed, and it has always been found to be very satisfactory.

Specialised Treatments.

(a) *Artificial Pneumothorax Therapy.*

Total number of attempted inductions	...	11
Number of successful inductions	... ..	9
Number of unsuccessful inductions	... ..	2

This has necessitated a total of 311 refills.

(b) *Aurotherapy.* We have used gold salts injections in specially selected cases, and the results in many patients are encouraging.

The total number of patients treated with gold salts injections was 59.

The total number of intra-muscular injections of gold salts during the year was 627.

(c) *Tuberculin (P.T.O. Bovine).* We have treated a number of Non - Pulmonary forms of Tuberculosis with the above preparation, and the results have been very satisfactory.

The total number of cases treated by the above method was 16. This necessitated a total number of 427 injections.

(d) *Colloidal Calcium Therapy.* During the year several cases were treated by injections of the above preparation, with beneficial results.

Open Air School. The children attending School at Didworthy during the past year have taken a keen interest in their school work, especially the handwork, consisting chiefly of basket making and raffia work.

Gardening has been introduced for senior pupils, and great pride is taken in this work by boys and girls.

Results from school examinations have been very satisfactory, the papers showing careful and neat work, and at the Michaelmas Term Examination very satisfactory results were obtained.

The Wireless Set, bought from Bolitho Trust money for the school, is greatly appreciated. The school talks to children on various subjects are very interesting and will be an advantage to them in their educational work and also for their pleasure. Both boys and girls are very interested in the School Broadcast talks, and with the help of the pamphlets issued are able to follow the Travel talks and History talks with keen interest.

The juniors and infants are slowly improving and seem very happy at their kindergarten occupations.

The number of children who received instruction during the year totalled 29.

Classes were of children whose ages varied from $4\frac{1}{2}$ to $15\frac{1}{2}$ years. The percentage of attendances made was 91%.

Occupational Therapy The psychological effect of Occupational therapy cannot be too greatly stressed.

Patients, in doing useful work, are able to forget their worries and troubles and take their treatment in a hopeful and co-operative manner.

(a) *Handicrafts Department.* The total number of patients who received instruction during the year was 59.

Men.

Number of men attending	...	...	...	37
Total number of working hours	...	...	...	3531

Children.

Number of children attending	...	...	...	22
Number of working hours	...	...	...	3243

**Farm and
Gardens**

I am very pleased to say that the general work on the Farm and in the Gardens continues to give satisfaction. Our cows provide us with approximately half our requirements of milk ; and most of the vegetables, excluding potatoes, were provided by our own farm. We all realise the benefit of fresh vegetables and salads.

**Special Works
undertaken
during 1937.**

1. New 2-inch asbestos piping feed supply from the pumps to the reservoir was laid during the year, and the concrete bed of the main reservoir was repaired.

2. The Staff Cottage was connected with the main sewage system.
3. Plans have been prepared this year for the erection of a Chapel which shall also serve as a lecture and film projection Hall for the patients, and a section of this building will form a recreation room for the Male Staff.

The site for this new structure is to be in front of " C " Block, and I feel that it will fulfil a much needed want. The major part of the cost of this work is being borne by the " Bolitho Trust Fund."

4. The Committee had under their consideration the buying of the field from Mr. Northmore in which is situated the springs from which our main water supply is derived. This purchase was effected in 1938.

BEAUMONT HOUSE DENTAL CLINIC.

REPORT OF THE DENTAL OFFICER.

The work of the clinic has been carried on much the same as in previous years. In the table giving details of the various operations performed, two obvious increases come under General Anæsthesia and Dentures. With regard to the former, Nitrous Oxide and Oxygen or Air given as a single dose have been employed less frequently, as the length of anæsthesia available only allows of the simplest extraction, with any degree of certainty. A limited number of the more difficult cases are admitted to the City Hospital. It is almost impossible to deal with the robust and persistent type of patient with the present equipment, and a more modern and efficient apparatus would be invaluable. In the first part of the

year the waiting list for dentures was considerable and undoubtedly caused hardship. In September a boy was appointed to assist in the workroom, and his services have helped to reduce the list.

A further addition to the year's work was the undertaking of the inspection and treatment of the children attending Holy Cross Elementary School. Of the 130 children requiring treatment, 99 (76%) accepted and received treatment. This high percentage is probably due to the close proximity of school and clinic together, with the willing co-operation of the Head Mistress. Nine sessions were taken at the School Clinics during illnesses of the School Dental Officers.

Nine Orthodontic cases ("straightening teeth") requiring fairly simple appliances were satisfactorily treated.

BEAUMONT HOUSE DENTAL CLINIC, 1937.

Department	New Patients	Atten- dances	Extractions		Anaesthetics			Fillings	Scalings	Dentures	Repairs	Other Operations
			Perm.	Temp.	Local	Simple	General					
Tuberculosis ...	147	751	481	23	106	17	19	183	68	53	20	130
Maternity & Child Welfare	373	1192	1087	596	65	128	127	188	38	82	7	178
City Hospital ...	109	111	519	16	25	19	54	—	6	2	1	5
Public Assistance ...	136	603	828	—	108	7	63	12	21	130	7	223
Police ...	10	81	56	—	7	—	2	14	4	24	—	39
Holy Cross School ...	269	164	71	138	12	43	—	82	—	9	—	30
TOTAL ...	1044	2902	3042	773	323	214	285	479	137	300	35	605

VISITS TO INSTITUTIONS.

Didworthy ...	26	Swilly ...	5
Mount Gold ...	25	School Clinic	9
City Hospital...	49		

The City General Hospital

The City General Hospital

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL SUPERINTENDENT.

The following table summarises certain statistics of a general nature on the work of the City Hospital :—

(1)	Total number of admissions	...	...	...	4626
(2)	Number of discharges	...	...	...	3909
(3)	Number of deaths	...	...	...	714
(4)	Patients treated to a conclusion	...	...		4623
(5)	Duration of stay of patients treated to a conclusion :				
	(a) Under four weeks	...	...	...	3450
	(b) Over four weeks and under thirteen weeks	...	...	...	899
	(c) Thirteen weeks or more	...	...		274
(6)	In-patient days	...	...	...	198,877
(7)	Average duration of stay	...	...	...	42.99 days
(8)	Number of available beds	...	...	...	570
(9)	Number of beds occupied :				
	(a) Average	...	...	...	528
	(b) Highest—on 2/2/37	...	...	...	583
	(c) Lowest—on 29/3/37	...	...	...	504
(10)	Number of women confined in Hospital	...			476
(11)	Number of live births	...	...	...	453
(12)	Number of stillbirths	...	...	...	30
(13)	Deaths of newly born (under 4 weeks)	...	...		12
(14)	Number of maternal deaths	...	...	...	9
(15)	Number of surgical operations	...	...	...	1535
(16)	Number of X-ray investigations	...	...	...	2031
(17)	Number of pathological investigations	...	...		6115
(18)	Number of patients treated in Dental Dept.	...			116

Accommodation. Attention has been drawn in previous reports to the extreme pressure of the demands upon the accommodation available during the busiest months of the year.

The daily average bed occupation at 528 represents 93% of the total available accommodation. The highest number in hospital during the year, 583, is well above the figure of available accommodation. In considering these figures there must always be borne in mind the many specific uses to which our beds are put. However great the demand in other departments, accommodation which may not be in use in special departments cannot be made available, but has to be reserved for special cases, *e.g.*, maternity, puerperal sepsis, ante-natal. Thus is explained the state of affairs in which, although the daily bed occupation may be considerably less than the full complement, there may nevertheless be extreme pressure in certain wards, with extra beds occupying available space. This condition has existed not infrequently during the past year.

Structural. There have been no changes during 1937. It is anticipated that there will be taken during the year 1938 the first steps in the Reconstruction Scheme towards the erection of a hospital in which the medical and nursing care will be rendered even more accessible and valuable to the patients.

Maternity Department. For some years this department has worked to capacity. In fact, in 1935 it was found desirable to commence the limitation of admission of maternity cases. In consequence, the number of confinements at 476 shows little increase on the 1936 figure of 463. The actual number of emergency admissions has increased yearly ; the ratio of emergency admissions has increased from 10% in 1935, 15% in 1936, to 20% in 1937 of the whole number of admissions to the department.

The Post-Natal Clinic has not been so adequately attended as last year. The value of attendance is not well recognised by the patients, although there is no doubt that a large amount of chronic illness can be avoided by the detection of abnormalities at an early stage after confinement by examination at such a Clinic. Measures have been taken by arranging a date of appointment for attendance of the mother after she leaves hospital, and by this means it is anticipated that the Clinic will be put to its fullest possible use.

Resident Medical Staff. Dr. J. Laurie, who was Deputy Medical Superintendent and Resident Physician to the Hospital from October, 1934, left the Hospital in August, 1937, upon his appointment as Medical Superintendent at the Sharoe Green Hospital, Preston.

Nurses' Training. At the Examinations during the year the following results were obtained:—

(A) STATE REGISTRATION EXAMINATION.

			<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed</i>	<i>Re-entries.</i>
Preliminary	...	...	15	12	4
Final	...	...	19	18	—

(B) CERTIFICATE OF CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

<i>Entered.</i>	<i>Passed.</i>	<i>Re-entries.</i>
14	13	—

STATISTICAL TABLES.

Patients remaining in hospital—1st Jan., 1937	...	530
Patients admitted	...	4173
Births	...	453
		5156
Patients discharged	...	3909
Patients died	...	714
		4623
Patients treated to a conclusion	...	533
Patients remaining in hospital—31st Dec., 1937	...	

ADMISSIONS—AGE AND SEX DISTRIBUTION.

	<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Births	221	232	453
Under 1 year	118	96	214
1-3	106	84	190
3-5	72	77	149
5-11	209	221	430
11-16	105	107	212
Adults	1137	1841	2978
TOTALS	1968	2658	4626

Of the 3696 patients admitted for treatment during the year (excluding maternity cases and births), 1,195 were under the age of 16 years (32.3%), and 983 were under the age of 11 years (26.6%).

ANALYSIS OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS.

Total number of deaths, 714.

<i>Ages.</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Under 1 year	...	...	...	27	20	47
1- 5	...	...	...	4	7	11
5-10	...	...	...	1	2	3
10-15	...	...	...	3	4	7
15-25	...	...	...	5	11	16
25-35	...	...	...	9	21	30
35-45	...	...	...	23	14	37
45-55	...	...	...	34	34	68
55-65	...	...	...	81	46	127
65-75	...	...	...	104	75	179
Over 75 years	...	...	...	81	108	189

Deaths within 24 hours of admission—83.

Causes :

Neonatal 6

Terminal :

Acute Disease 46

Chronic Disease 28

Violence 3

COMMENTS :—

The number of deaths, 714, is large. Of these, however, 426 were from incurable cancer, from senile causes, and patients moribund on admission.

CLASSIFICATION OF IN-PATIENTS TREATED TO A
CONCLUSION IN THE INSTITUTION DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

<i>Disease Groups.</i>	<i>Children (under 16 Years of Age).</i>		<i>Men and Women.</i>	
	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>	<i>Dis- charged.</i>	<i>Died.</i>
Acute infectious disease ...	16	—	6	—
Influenza ...	1	2	30	9
Tuberculosis—				
Pulmonary ...	1	—	27	7
Non-pulmonary ...	5	2	12	3
Malignant disease ...	—	—	49	92
Rheumatism—				
(1) Acute rheumatism (rheu- matic fever) together with sub - acute rheumatism and chorea ...	6	1	16	—
(2) Non-articular manifesta- tions of so-called “rheu- matism” (muscular rheumatism, fibrositis, lumbago and sciatica) ...	—	—	19	—
(3) Chronic arthritis ...	—	—	26	1
Venereal disease ...	2	1	12	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	—	—	15	—
Puerperal Fever—				
(a) Women confined in the hospital ...	—	—	1	—
(b) Other cases ...	—	—	14	5
Other diseases and accidents connected with pregnancy and childbirth ...	—	—	127	14
Mental disease—				
(a) Senile Dementia ...	—	—	1	—
(b) Other ...	—	—	9	—
Senile decay ...	—	—	12	2
Accidental injury and vio- lence ...	17	1	59	8
In respect of cases not in- cluded above:—				
Tonsils and Adenoids ...	415	—	—	—
Disease of the Nervous Sys- tem and Sense Organs ...	49	12	154	113
Disease of the Respiratory System ...	109	18	179	74
Disease of the Circulatory System ...	7	3	176	212
Disease of the Digestive Sys- tem ...	112	13	330	35
Disease of the Genito-urinary System ...	43	—	344	73
Disease of the Skin ...	224	—	213	1
Other diseases ...	3	11	45	1
Mothers and infants dis- charged from the Maternity Wards and not included in above figures—				
Mothers ...	—	—	477	—
Infants ...	453	—	—	—
Any persons not falling under any of the above headings	93	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	1556	64	2353	650

ANALYSIS OF WORK OF DEPARTMENTS.

General. The inset table gives details of the work of all the departments of the hospital in the form of a classification of all patients treated to a conclusion.

Surgery and Anaesthetics.	OPERATIONS IN MAIN THEATRE:					
Abdominal	295
Genito-Urinary	230
Gynæcological	104
Ear, Nose and Throat	446
Maternity (including Cæsarean Sections)	40
Others	420

Of these operations, 72 were conducted under spinal anæsthesia by intrathecal injection. In addition, more extensive use has been made of the basal narcosis methods in anæsthesia by Avertin and Paraldehyde. Evipan intravenously and Vinesthene by inhalation also found a limited application.

Maternity.	Number of available beds	...	...	...	22
	Number of patients admitted	...	...	...	476
	Number of cases delivered by :				
	(a) Midwives	...	...	...	414
	(b) Doctors	...	...	...	62

(A) ANTE-NATAL DEPARTMENT.

Number of sessions	...	...	...	99
Number of attendances	...	...	...	3815
Average number of attendances per session	...	...	...	38.5
Number of expectant mothers seen	...	...	...	503
Average number of attendances made by each	...	...	...	7.6
Referred for radiological examination	...	...	...	107
Referred to Consultant Obstetrical Clinic	...	...	...	26
Referred to V.D. Clinic	...	...	...	20

Consulting Obstetrical Clinic :

New Cases	...	...	...	96
Total attendances	...	...	...	104

Post-Natal Clinic :

New Cases	...	...	...	80
Total attendances	...	...	...	120

(B) IN-PATIENT DEPARTMENT.

(1) *Mothers :*

476 mothers gave birth to 483 children.
(There were 7 cases of twin birth).

How Admitted :

Through Ante-Natal Clinic	...	...	382
Emergency	...	...	94

Parous State :

Primipara	...	...	227
Multipara	...	...	249

Presentation :

Vertex	...	...	456
Face	...	...	—
Breech—Uncomplicated	...	...	10
Complicated	...	...	7
B.B.A.	...	...	3

(2) *Obstetrical Operations :*

Instrumental deliveries	...	16
Surgical induction of labour	...	16
Cæsarean Section	...	26
Internal Version	...	3
Scalp Traction	...	3

(3) *Maternal Deaths* 9

<i>Whether admitted from A.N. Clinic</i>	<i>Mode of delivery</i>	<i>Maternal Complication</i>	<i>Number of Cases</i>
No.	Induction	Eclampsia	3
Yes	Undelivered	Eclampsia	1
No.	Undelivered	Eclampsia	1
No.	Forceps	Eclampsia	1
No.	Cæsarean Section	Myocarditis, Dystocia	1
Yes	Forceps	Obstetric Shock	1
No.	Undelivered	Ante-Partum Hæmorrhage Toxæmia of Pregnancy	1

(4) PYREXIAL CASES.

2 cases delivered in the hospital were pyrexial (Ministry of Health standard). Of these, 1 was notifiable as puerperal fever. There were no deaths in this group.

Infants:

Births	...	...	...	...	483
Premature	...	...	...	...	52
Mature	...	...	...	...	431

Survival:

Born and survived	...	...	...	440
Born and died—				
(within 4 weeks)	...	...	...	13
(within 10 days)	...	...	...	10
Stillbirths	...	...	...	30

Of 483 infants born, 31 died and 30 were stillborn=8.9.% Of 453 born alive, 13 died=2.9.%

CAUSE OF NEONATAL DEATHS (within 10 days):

Prematurity	...	...	...	...	4
Pulmonary atelectasis	...	...	...	...	2
Maternal toxæmia	...	...	...	...	1
Cerebral Oedema	...	...	...	...	1
Intra-Cranial Hæmorrhage	...	...	...	...	2

Radiological Department.

The following figures of special examinations afford an index of the work of this department.

Special Examinations:

Total radiographic examinations	...	2031
Chest radiographs	...	730
Lipiodol examinations	...	15
Opaque meal examinations	...	187
Opaque enemata	...	62
Cholecystograms	...	62
Pyelography—		
Retrograde	...	20
Intravenous	...	68

Dental Department.

Sessions held	...	41
Patients treated	...	116
Scalings	...	5
Extractions	...	103
Others	...	8

ANNUAL PATIENT STATISTICS.

	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/35	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/36	<i>Year ending</i> 31/12/37
Admissions	4663	4458	4173
Births	565	440	453
	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5228	4898	4626
Discharges	4529	4188	3909
Deaths	703	709	714
	—	—	—
TOTALS ...	5232	4897	4623
Patient days	187,240	195,936	198,877
Daily average Beds occupied	513	535	528
Highest Number ...	564	576	583
Lowest Number ...	475	488	509
Average stay	35.81 days	40 days	42.99 days

Cancer

Cancer

ARRANGEMENTS FOR RADIUM TREATMENT AND DEEP X-RAY THERAPY.

The Plymouth Radium Centre is at the Prince of Wales's Hospital, Greenbank Road, the work of which was described in my last year's Annual Report.

Since then, negotiation has taken place with the Prince of Wales's Hospital and the National Radium Commission, with a view to arrangements being made whereby patients in the City (General) Hospital may receive radium treatment without having to be transferred to the Prince of Wales's Hospital for this purpose. Such an arrangement, it was thought, would help to reduce the waiting list of cancer patients and expedite the treatment of City Hospital patients. The Radium Officer would have the same access to the patient in the City Hospital as to one in the Prince of Wales's Hospital. These negotiations are still in progress.

CANCER.

DEATHS FROM CANCER, SHOWING THE PARTS OF THE BODY AFFECTED,
DURING THE YEARS 1930 TO 1937.

<i>Part of the Body Affected.</i>	1930			1931			1932			1933			1934			1935			1936			1937		
	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.	M.	F.	Total.
Buccal Cavity ...	17	1	18	13	—	13	14	3	17	15	1	16	23	1	24	22	4	26	13	2	15	13	3	16
Stomach, Liver, etc. ...	36	46	82	30	42	72	47	24	71	44	45	89	31	50	81	63	46	109	40	38	78	51	49	100
Intestines, etc. ...	27	30	57	30	33	63	31	37	68	22	30	52	37	53	90	31	34	65	43	58	101	42	37	79
Breast ...	—	39	39	—	25	25	—	23	23	—	37	37	—	26	26	—	34	34	—	—	31	1	36	37
Female Genital Organs ...	—	34	34	—	46	46	—	37	37	—	34	34	—	44	44	—	31	31	—	—	32	—	34	34
Skin ...	4	—	4	—	—	—	1	2	3	6	1	7	—	—	—	6	2	8	11	5	16	10	1	11
Other or Unspecified Organs...	53	30	83	66	24	90	62	29	91	44	24	68	38	22	60	26	22	48	36	15	51	50	16	66
TOTALS ...	137	180	317	139	170	309	155	155	310	131	172	303	129	196	325	148	173	321	143	181	324	167	176	343

HOSPITAL TREATMENT OF CANCER.

TOTAL NUMBER OF PATIENTS ADMITTED TO CITY HOSPITAL DURING THE YEAR 1937=141.

SITES	Patients admitted after previous advice or treatment at another hospital providing radiation as well as operative treatment		Patients admitted after previous advice or treatment at another hospital providing operative but not radiation treatment		Patients admitted without previous advice or treatment at another hospital	
	(a) Numbers treated at that hospital	(b) Numbers not treated at that hospital	Treated at that hospital		(a) Numbers retained in Council's hospital	(b) Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to— (i) Hospital providing operative treatment (ii) Hospital providing radiation as well as operative treatment
			(a) Numbers retained in Council's hospital	(b) Numbers referred for advice and/or treatment to a hospital providing radiation treatment		
Uterus ...	10	1	1	—	4	—
Tongue and Mouth ...	2	—	—	—	2	—
Breast ...	1	—	—	—	5	—
Lip ...	1	—	—	—	—	—
Skin ...	2	—	—	—	4	—
Larynx ...	1	—	—	—	2	—
Bladder ...	1	—	—	—	3	—
Rectum ...	3	—	—	—	12	—
Other sites ...	5	1	1	—	70	1
Total ...	26	2	2	—	102	—
						9

Welfare of the Blind

Welfare of the Blind

The City Council is responsible for the administration of the Blind Persons Act, 1920.

On the 31st March, 1938, there were 522 persons on the Plymouth City Register of Blind Persons, excluding persons who are resident in the City but registered elsewhere. In 1931 there were 607 persons on the Register, and the number has steadily decreased each year since. Over 85 per cent. of those registered are over the age of forty years.

Age of persons Registered as Blind :—

0 to 5 years	...	...	...	...	0
5 to 16 „	...	...	...	...	16
16 to 21 „	...	...	...	...	6
21 to 40 „	...	...	...	...	50
40 to 50 „	...	...	...	...	55
50 to 65 „	...	...	...	...	129
65 to 70 „	...	...	...	...	67
70 to 80 „	...	...	...	...	129
80 to 90 „	....	....	....	....	65
90 and over	....	....	....	....	5

Age of Onset of Blindness :—

0 to 1 years	...	...	...	...	68
1 to 5 „	...	...	...	...	15
5 to 10 „	...	...	...	...	24
10 to 20 „	...	...	...	...	27
20 to 30 „	...	...	...	...	37
30 to 40 „	...	...	...	...	40
40 to 50 „	...	...	...	...	54
50 to 60 „	...	...	...	...	95
60 to 70 „	...	...	...	...	92
Over 70 „	...	...	...	...	70

The South Devon and Cornwall Institution—a voluntary body—provides the main services in connection with the various activities arising out of the Blind Persons Act.

OCCUPATIONS OF EMPLOYED BLIND PERSONS.

Baskets Department	...	...	...	16
Mats Department	...	...	...	8
Knitting and Chair Caning Department				7
Boots Department	...	...	...	3
Piano Department	...	...	...	1

All cases for relief under the Blind Persons Act, 1920, must be in possession of an ophthalmic surgeon's certificate of blindness under the Act.

Children under school age suffering from blindness are admitted to various sunshine homes, and on attaining school age attend the Blind School at Exeter. After attaining sixteen years of age they are transferred to the South Devon and Cornwall Institution, Plymouth.

Registered Workers.

Not only Plymouth people who have reached such a stage of proficiency in their work that they can produce articles at the Home workshops, but also blind persons living elsewhere are dealt with. Materials, etc., are provided at cost price. The persons can secure their own orders for work and also receive commissions from the Institution, and the income they make from their own endeavours is augmented by an allowance under the Blind Persons' scheme.

Part-time Occupation.

These are Plymouth people visited by the Home teachers, and taught Braille and small things, such as rug-making, etc., to occupy their minds. No payment is made or received for this work.

The Home teachers also take these people on the Hoe, or elsewhere, for walks, and generally give them added interests in their lives.

GRANT BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY (BLIND PERSONS ACT, 1920).

(*Financial Year, 1/3/36—31/3/37.*)

	£	s.	d.
Services Hired—Ophthalmic Surgeons' Fees ...	79	16	0
South Devon and Cornwall Institution for the Blind—			
Necessitous Blind Relief	7956	6	0
Grant for Proportion of Administrative Expenses—			
Home Teachers and Workers	1220	0	0
Augmentation of Journeymen's Wages	1643	0	1
Devonport and Western Counties Association for			
Welfare of the Blind—Grant	348	0	0
Grant to other Institutions	146	0	0
Home for Blind, Torr—Maintenance	40	12	6
	<hr/>		
	£11,433	14	7
	<hr/>		

PORT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Port Health Department

I. AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT DURING THE YEAR 1937.

Shipping. In all, 3,170 vessels (apart from those engaged in the fishing trade) arrived from foreign and coast-wise, the tonnage amounting to 8,027,785.

Four hundred and fifty-six vessels were visited by the Medical Officers, and 1,809 by the Inspector. 104 defects were found on 49 vessels, and in most cases the defects were remedied while in Port. In cases where it was not possible for renovation and repairs to be carried out during the vessels' stay at Plymouth, a letter was sent to the Inspector at the next port of call in England notifying him of the details of our notice. In all, five letters were sent. Further details will be found in Table A.

II. CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.

Passenger Traffic. The number of persons passing through the Port was over 33,256, including 15,363 aliens, the latter figure being made up in the main part by American tourists.

Cargo Traffic. *Coastwise.* Coastwise cargo traffic consists largely of transhipped general cargoes from London, Liverpool and Glasgow, coal from the North-East ports, and coal and general goods from the Bristol Channel ports.

Foreign. The foreign trade remained much the same as in previous years. Vessels arriving from infected ports were given immediate attention by officers of this Department. Table B (*b*) gives a list of the chief steamship companies and ports with which Plymouth has traded during the year 1937, and the nature of any cargo traded.

TABLE A.

**AMOUNT OF SHIPPING ENTERING THE PORT
DURING THE YEAR 1937.**

Type of Vessel	Number.	Tonnage.	Number In- spected by the		Num- ber re- ported to be defec- tive.	Number of vessels on which defects were remedied	Number of vessels re- ported as having, or having had during the voyage inf. dis. on board
			M.O.	San. Insp.			
FOREIGN—							
Steamer ..	1027		411	393	34	34	95
Motor ...	224		44	94	1	1	21
Sailing ...	3		—	3	—	—	—
Fishing ...	Included above		—	—	—	—	—
Total Foreign	1,254	7,490,968	455	490	35	35	116
COASTWISE—							
Steamer ...	863	369,148	1	703	13	13	3
Motor ...	1050	167,350	—	612	1	1	—
Sailing ...	3	319	—	2	—	—	—
Fishing ...	Included above		—	2	—	—	—
Total Coastwise	1,916	536,817	1	1,319	14	14	3
Total Foreign and Coastwise	3,170	8,027,785	456	1,809	49	49	119

TABLE B. (a)

CHARACTER OF TRADE OF PORT.
PASSENGER TRAFFIC DURING THE YEAR 1937.

<i>No. of Passengers</i>	<i>1st Class</i>	<i>Cabin</i>	<i>2nd Class</i>	<i>Tourist</i>	<i>3rd Class</i>	<i>Trans- migrants</i>	<i>Coastwise Passengers</i>	<i>Not classified</i>	<i>Total</i>
INWARDS	6,157	10,914	2,187	6,637	3,937	104	430	1,095	31,461
OUTWARDS	124	500	122	273	80	—	639	57	1,795

TABLE B (b).

CHIEF STEAMSHIP COMPANIES AND PORTS WITH WHICH PLYMOUTH
HAS TRADED DURING THE YEAR 1937.

COASTWISE IMPORTS.

Aberdeen, Dundee and Kirkcaldy	Confectionery, fish, jams, lard, oatmeal, potatoes, grain, lino, and jute goods	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Avonmouth	Flour, wheat	Various	Irregular
London, Rochester	Cement	Various	Irregular
Birkenhead, Swansea	Flour and Poultry food	Coast Lines Ltd. and various	Weekly
Belfast	Potatoes, rope, eggs, linen, etc.	Clyde S.S. Co.	Weekly
Blyth, Goole, Keadby, Immingham, Newcastle, Sunderland, Cardiff, Barry, Methil, Seaham	Coal	Various	Weekly
Bristol	Canned goods, flour, fruit, milk (condensed), sugar, soap, vegetables, cattle food, soda, glucose, oils, paints, plywood, mats, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Swansea	Galv. iron, lubricatg. oil	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Glasgow	Biscuits, coffee, flour, sugar, syrup; iron and steel goods; general	Clyde S.S. Co.	Weekly
Hull and Leith	Confectionery, canned goods, lard, potatoes, rice, salt fish, cattle food, wool, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Liverpool and London	Bottled and canned goods, cheese, dried, fresh and preserved fruit, flour, grain, lard, oats, salt beef and pork, sugar, wines, lino, pianos, skins, wool, hemp, lead, general	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
Middlesbrough	Basic slag, iron work; fertilizer, cement, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd. and various	Irregular
Pentewan	Sand	Various	Irregular
Southampton	Canned goods, lard, oil, petrol, timber, cable	Coast Lines Ltd. and various	Weekly & irregular
Dundrum, Montrose Portaferry	Potatoes	Various	Irregular

FOREIGN IMPORTS.

CANADA :			
Vancouver	Timber and wheat	Various	Isolated
CHANNEL ISLANDS :			
Guernsey, Jersey	Fats of sorts, fruit, vegetables, etc. ; Sulphate of Ammonia, etc.	Plymouth, Channel Islands & Brittany S.S. Co., Ltd.	Weekly
EIRE :			
Waterford	Bacon, porter, horses	Clyde S.S. Co.	Weekly
Dublin	Biscuits, stout, whisky, etc.	Coast Lines Ltd.	Weekly
ALGERIA :			
Bona	Ore and phosphates	Various	Irregular
SOUTH AMERICA :			
Concepcion	Grain	Various	Irregular
La Plata, Rosario, San Nicolas,			
Valparaiso, etc.	Nitrates	Various	Irregular
BELGIUM :			
Antwerp	Bricks, chocolate, flour, grain, mineral waters, sulphur, bulbs, glass, manure, nails, ore, paper, wire, zinc, tapestry, cement, etc.	Bristol Steam Navigation Co. and various	Fortnightly and Irregular
Nieuport	Cement	Various	Irregular
DENMARK, DANZIG, FINLAND, NORWAY, SWEDEN :			
—	Matches, paper, timber, wood goods, grain, etc.	Various	Irregular
FRANCE :			
Brest	Green peas, onions, strawberries	Various	Seasonal
St. Brieuc	Onions	Various	Weekly
St. Malo	Slates	Various	Weekly
GERMANY :			
Hamburg, Bremen	Milk (condensed), sugar, baskets, brushes, carbide, enamelware, hemp, granite, matches, mats, paper, toys, glass, red lead, clay, etc.	General Steam and Bugsier Lines	Fortnightly

HOLLAND :

Amsterdam and
Rotterdam

Barley, bran, benzene,
cake, butter, cheese,
chocolates, cocoa, coffee,
condensed milk, fruit,
ground rice, margarine,
middlings, tinned meat,
sugar preserves, veget-
ables, etc.; artificial
flowers, bulbs, carpets,
cotton goods, electric
batteries, enamelware,
hardware, machinery,
matches, paper, rope,
strawboards, toys, wood-
ware, etc.

Holland S.S. Co.
Bristol S.N. Co.
and others

Fortnightly

LITHUANIA :

Memel

Timber

Various

Irregular

PERSIAN GULF :

Basra

Grain

Various

Irregular

Abadan

Oil

Various

Irregular

PORTUGAL :

Oporto, Ponta
Delgarda

Pineapples

Various

Irregular

RUSSIA :

Novorossish

Barley

Various

Irregular

RUMANIA :

Brailla

Barley

Various

Irregular

SPAIN :

Huelva

Ore and phosphates

Various

Irregular

TUNISIA :

Tunis, Sfax, Susa

Ore and phosphates

Various

Irregular

VENEZUELA :

Curacoa

Kerosine, petroleum,
benzene

Various

Irregular

WEST INDIES :

Trinidad
and Aruba

Fuel Oil

Various

Irregular

EXPORTS FOREIGN.

Manures and lime, confectionery, potatoes, salt, cattle cake and meal,
and generals sent to the Channel Islands.

Fish is sent to Italy and France.

Blood meal, clay, scrap tyres, metal and skins are sent to Germany.

China clay is sent to Holland and Germany.

Wolfram ore to Hamburg.

Wool to Germany, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, Poland, America and Greece.

Superphosphates to Lithuania.

Spirits to all parts of the world.

Cider, blacklead, spirits, pottery, paper, clay, earthenware pipes, agricultural
machinery to Eire.

EXPORTS COASTWISE

Stone to Southampton and London.

Clay to Glasgow.

General to all parts of England, Scotland and Ireland.

TABLE B (c).

THE VARIOUS LINES USING PLYMOUTH AS A PORT
OF CALL.

American Merchant Line	...	New York.
Bibby Line	... ..	Burma, Ceylon and Egypt.
Blue Star Line	... ..	River Plate and Lisbon.
British India Line	... ..	Indian and East African Ports.
City Line	... ..	Indian Ports.
Cunard Line	... ..	New York, Montreal and Quebec
Elder Dempster Line	... ..	West Coast of Africa.
Ellerman Bucknall Line	... ..	South African Ports.
French Line (homeward only)		New York and West Indies.
Glen Line (no calls in 1937)		
German African Line	... ..	West Coast of Africa.
Hall Line	... ..	Indian Ports.
Hamburg American Line	... ..	Mexico, Central American and West Indies.
Hamburg South America Line		Buenos Aires, Monte Video, Rio de Janeiro, Lisbon and Vigo.
Henderson Line	... ..	Rangoon.
Holland America Line	... ..	New York.
Johnson Line	... ..	Pacific and Central American Ports.
Norddeutscher Lloyd Line	... ..	New York.
Orient Line	... ..	Australian Ports.
Pacific Steam Navigation Co.		West Coast of South America.
Peninsular and Oriental Line	... ..	India, China, Japan, Australia and Colombo.
Royal Netherlands Line	... ..	West Indies.
United States Line	... ..	New York.

III. SOURCE OF WATER SUPPLY.

(a) *For the Port.*

Great Western Docks.	Plymouth Corporation Water
Cattedown & Sutton Harbour	Department from hydrants
	on the wharves.

(b) *For Shipping.* The only water boat supplying fresh water to shipping in the Port is the *Ela*, of 5,500 gallons capacity.

(c) *Number of Water Boats and Sanitary Condition.* For shipping, water is derived either from the hydrants on the wharves or from the *Ela*. The tanks of the *Ela* were inspected periodically throughout the year and were found to be in a wholesome condition.

IV. PORT SANITARY REGULATIONS, 1933.

- (1) Arrangements for dealing with Declarations of Health.
- (2) Boarding of vessels on Arrival.
- (3) Notification of the Authority of inward vessels requiring Special Attention.
- (4) Mooring stations designated under Article 10.
- (5) Particulars of any standing exemptions from the provisions of Article 14.
- (6) Experience of working of Article 16.
- (7) Arrangements made for :—
 - (a) Premises and waiting-room for medical examination.
 - (b) Cleansing and disinfection of ships, persons and clothing and other articles.
 - (c) Premises for the temporary accommodation of persons for whom such accommodation is required for the purposes of the Regulations.
 - (d) Hospital accommodation available for Plague, Cholera, Yellow Fever, Smallpox and other infectious diseases.
 - (e) Ambulance transport.
 - (f) Supervision of contacts.
- (8) Arrangements for the bacteriological or pathological examination of rats for plague.
- (9) Arrangements for other bacteriological or pathological examinations.
- (10) Arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of venereal disease among sailors under the international arrangements.
- (11) Arrangements for the interment of the dead.
- (12) Other matters.

All the above remain the same as set forth in the Annual Report for the year 1933.

TABLE C.

**CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS LANDED FROM
VESSELS.**

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Cases during 1937</i>		<i>Average No. of cases for previous 5 years</i>	<i>No. of Vessels concerned</i>
	<i>Passengers</i>	<i>Crew</i>		
Pneumonia	—	1	1.5	1
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis	11	—	14.3	5
Chicken Pox	1	—	1.0	1
Influenza	1	—	1.0	1
Mumps	1	—	.6	1
TOTALS ...	14	1	—	9

TABLE D.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS OCCURRING ON
VESSELS DURING THE VOYAGE BUT DISPOSED OF
PRIOR TO ARRIVAL.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Cases during 1937</i>		<i>Average No. of cases for previous 5 years</i>	<i>No. of Vessels concerned</i>
	<i>Passengers</i>	<i>Crew</i>		
Scarlet Fever ...	6	—	2.2	3
Dysentery ...	3	—	3.5	3
Pulmonary Tuber- culosis ...	1	—	6.0	1
Malaria (contracted abroad) ...	—	1	7.7	1
Chicken-pox ...	7	2	6.9	6
Measles ...	6	1	4.3	5
Venereal Disease ...	—	6	5.8	4
Mumps ...	2	—	.7	1
Enteric Fever ...	—	7	5.4	3
TOTALS ...	25	17	—	27

CASES OF INFECTIOUS SICKNESS DEALT WITH DURING THE YEAR 1937.

	NUMBER OF CASES INVESTIGATED			TOTALS	
	<i>Disposed of during voyage</i>	<i>Landed at Ply- mouth.</i>	<i>Pro- ceeded in Ship</i>	<i>Passen- gers</i>	<i>Crew</i>
Scarlet Fever ...	6	—	1	7	—
Enteric Fever ...	7	—	4	3	8
Pneumonia ...	—	1	4	2	3
Dysentery ...	3	—	2	5	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	3	1	2
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	11	36	46	2
Tuberculosis (other forms)	—	—	1	1	—
Malaria ...	1	—	12	3	10
Chicken Pox ...	9	1	5	11	4
Measles ...	7	—	11	17	1
Venereal Disease	4	—	29	11	22
Influenza ...	—	1	1	1	1
Mumps ...	2	1	6	8	1
Whooping Cough	—	—	3	3	—
Leprosy ...	—	—	1	1	—
TOTALS ...	40	15	119	120	54

Medical work under the Aliens Order, 1920. The number of aliens landed at this port during the year was 15,363, in addition to 72 alien seamen, all of whom were either medically examined or inspected: 161 were subjected to detailed examination for various reasons ; but it was not necessary to refuse permission to land in any case. Those staying over three months were treated as immigrants and subjected to more careful medical examination, so that no alien should be permitted to land who, by reason of physical or mental infirmity might become a burden or charge on the community.

V. MEASURES AGAINST RODENTS.

- (1) Steps taken for the detection of rodent plague.
- (2) Measures taken to prevent the passage of rats between the ships and the shore.
- (3) Methods of deratisation of (a) Ships, and (b) Premises in the vicinity of docks or quays.
- (4) Measures taken for the detection of rat prevalence in ships and on shore.
- (5) Rat proofing.

The measures taken under all the above headings remain the same as set out in the Annual Report for the year 1933.

Plague Precautions were carried out on 82 vessels arriving from plague-intected or suspected ports, and suitable measures taken to prevent rats from leaving or gaining access to the ship.

One Deratisation Certificate and 36 Deratisation Exemption Certificates were issued. In certain cases a month's extension was granted, and the ships were allowed to proceed for fumigation either at their home ports or next port of loading. In each case the appropriate Authority was notified. The contractors' prices for fumigation appear to be relatively high at Plymouth, and ships are reluctant to undergo fumigation because of the cost.

Further details will be found in Tables E to H.

REPORT ON THE RAT-FLEAS OF PLYMOUTH.

By R. B. MAYFIELD, M.D.
(formerly Asst. M.O.H., Plymouth).

This investigation began in May, 1935, and ended in May, 1937. The object was to gain some idea of the species and numbers of fleas harboured by the rats which inhabit the Plymouth Docks. The total number of rats examined for fleas was eighty-three, seventy-seven of these being caught on the docks and the remaining six in the town of Plymouth.

TECHNIQUE.

Only live rats, trapped singly, were used in this survey. The cage containing the rat was placed in a white calico bag, and the whole enclosed in a wooden box together with a rag soaked in chloroform. After a suitable interval had elapsed, the bag containing the caged rat was removed from the box, and the fleas collected by thoroughly combing the rat and searching the bag.

RESULTS.

(A) *Rats Caught on Dock Premises.*

The total number of rats investigated in this area was 77, consisting of 63 *Rattus norvegicus* and 14 *Rattus rattus*. Two of the former species and one of the latter were immature specimens.

Three species of rat-flea were found on the docks, *Nosopsyllus* (*Ceratophyllus*) *fasciatus*, *Xenopsylla cheopis*, and *Leptopsylla segnis* (*musculi*).

(a) *Rattus norvegicus*. Table I shows the total numbers of each species of flea found on adult brown rats during the period of the investigation, together with the average numbers of fleas per rat. Here and subsequently "F" denotes "number of fleas," and "F/R" denotes number of fleas per rat.

TABLE I.

Species of flea	...	F	F/R	
X. cheopis	...	171	2.8	
N. fasciatus	...	352	5.8	Number of rats—61.
L. segnis	...	79	1.3	
Total fleas	...	602	9.9	

Table II shows the average numbers of fleas per rat in quarterly periods of the year, the rats dealt with here being the same as in Table I. It should be noted that the second quarter in 1935 does not include April, and the second quarter in 1937 does not include June.

TABLE II.

		1935.			1936.			1937.		
Quarter of year		2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	1st	2nd
X. cheopis	...	13.0	4.0	4.5	0.7	1.1	0.0	1.0	1.1	0.3
N. fasciatus	...	6.0	9.0	5.0	7.0	4.0	8.3	2.0	7.6	5.7
L. segnis	...	3.8	1.5	0.4	0.7	0.5	5.3	2.8	0.3	0.7
Total fleas	...	22.8	14.5	9.8	8.5	5.6	13.7	5.8	9.0	6.7
No. of rats	...	6	2	11	11	11	3	5	9	3

Table II does not reveal any seasonal variation in the numbers per rat of any of the three species of flea encountered, though this may be because the numbers of rats are too small. A noticeable feature is the sharp fall in the incidence of *X. cheopis*, but it must be borne in mind that the rat-flea population of a port is liable to sudden increases due to immigration.

It is interesting to note that 96 per cent. of the *X. cheopis* taken off brown rats on the docks came from a single grain warehouse, and the remaining 4 per cent. from within two hundred yards of these premises. This flea is not, of course, a native of this country, but is imported from warmer climates. It has been found plentifully in the Ports of Liverpool and Cardiff in recent years, at Bristol (1916), and at Guy's Hospital (1911). A single specimen was taken from a brown rat at Plymouth in 1905.

(b) *Rattus rattus*. The single immature *R. rattus* yielded one specimen of *N. fasciatus*. The gleanings from the thirteen adults are shown in Table III.

TABLE III.

Species of flea	...	...	...	F	F/R
<i>X. cheopis</i>	...	...	...	7	0.5
<i>N. fasciatus</i>	...	...	...	50	3.9
<i>L. segnis</i>	...	...	...	25	1.9
Total fleas	...	...	...	82	6.3

Here, again, the *X. cheopis* were all derived from the grain store mentioned above or its near neighbourhood.

(B) *Rats Caught in the Town of Plymouth.*

Four *R. norvegicus* and two *R. rattus* were trapped in the town of Plymouth and examined for fleas. Between them they yielded 32 specimens of *N. fasciatus* and 3 of *L. segnis*. None of these rats harboured *X. cheopis*.

Acknowledgment.

My best thanks are due to Professor P. A. Buxton, of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, who very kindly checked the identifications of all the fleas collected in this survey.

Oysters. As mentioned in the Annual Report for 1936, the owner of the Yealm Oyster Fisheries has modified his tanks on lines suggested by this Department. Throughout the summer experiments were carried out in the newly constructed tanks in close collaboration with Professor Eyre, to whom we are indebted for the vast amount of bacteriological work he has undertaken and for his advice on numerous occasions.

The principle of the method used is that sea-water will purify itself when allowed to sediment for ten to twelve days, and may then be regarded as "clean." The self-cleansing properties of the oysters are well known, and if fed on clean water they will rapidly cleanse themselves.

There are three tanks arranged in parallel. The first tank (*A*) has a depth of 10 feet and is used for sedimentation purposes. Water is run in up to a depth of 8 ft. 6 ins.—thus giving a volume of water of approximately 32,000 gallons. Water is allowed to sediment for ten to twelve days, and then run into a second tank (*B*) to a depth of 3 ft. The volume of water in this second tank (or treatment tank) is approximately 9,000 gallons. Oysters, previously freed from gross pollution by scrubbing, are placed in a single layer on special trays, lying 18 ins. from the bottom of the tank, for a period of two days. The water is then run out of the tank and the oysters hosed with “clean” water from the sedimenting tank (*A*). A further 9,000 gallons of “clean” water are then transferred into the treatment tank (*B*) from the sedimentation tank (*A*) and the process repeated, making a total of four days’ treatment.

At the onset, treatment consisted of two periods of three days each, but this was reduced because it was found that the oysters did not function vigorously on the third day. Bacteriological examinations revealed no detriment following the reduction in time. Between two and four thousand oysters are treated in this way at a time, according to the requirements of the market.

The cleansed oysters are then placed in special storage tanks until required for market. Clean water from one of the sedimentation tanks is pumped into these tanks daily to a depth of 18 ins.

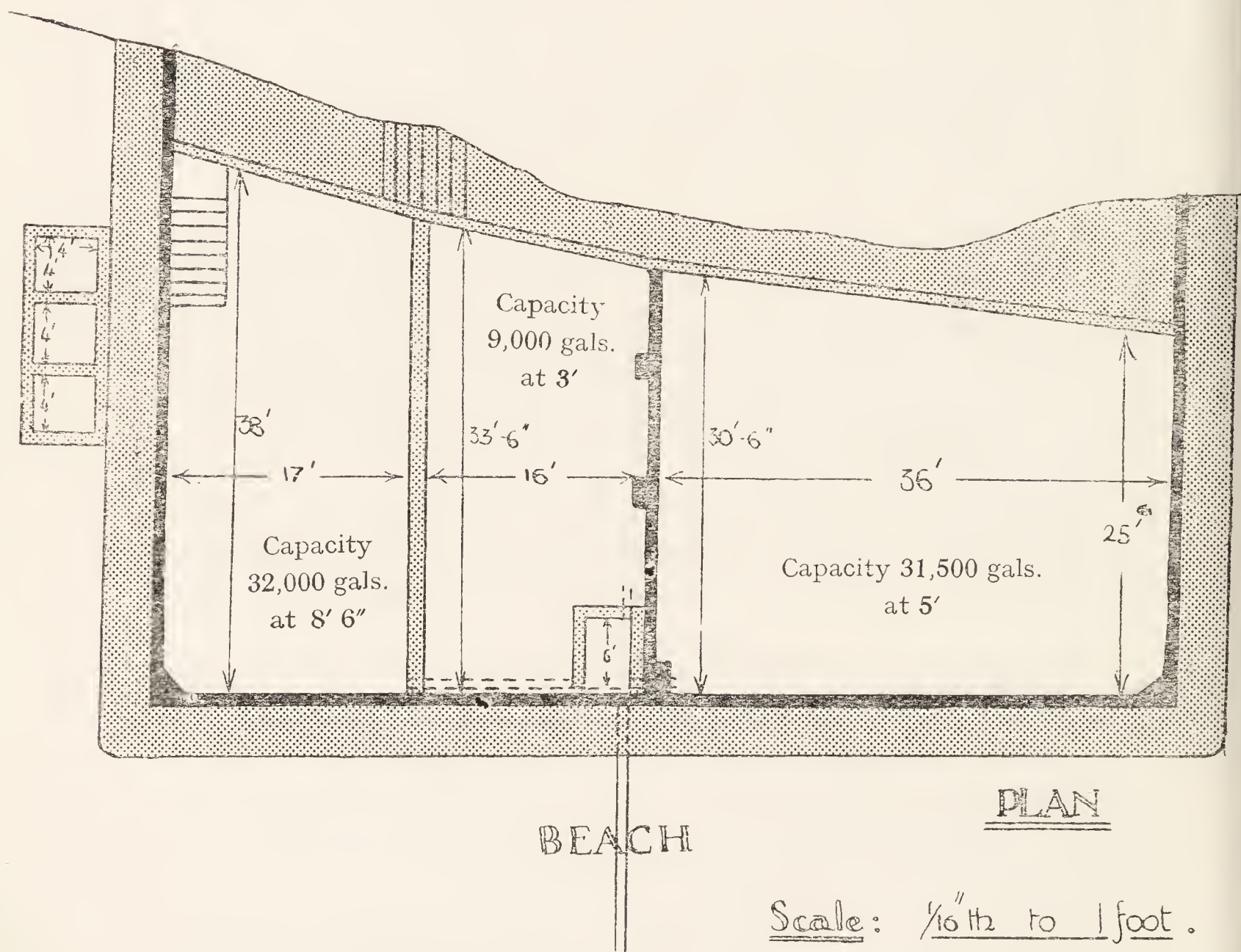
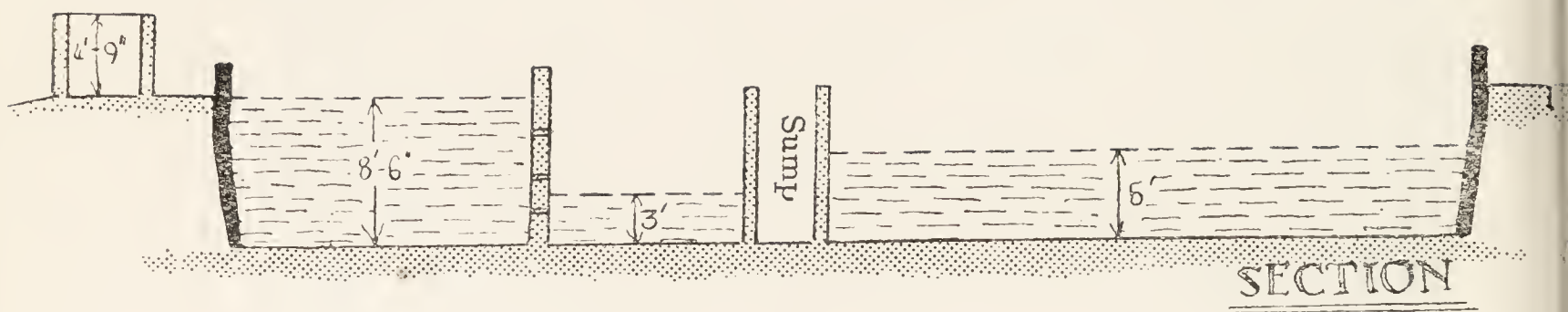
The oysters are placed on special wooden trays, about 9 ins. from the bottom of the tank.

The third tank (*C*) is a larger but shallower tank which is used as a second sedimentation tank. Water is run into here to a depth of 5 ft., giving a volume of approximately 31,500 gallons, and treated in a similar way to that in tank (*A*).

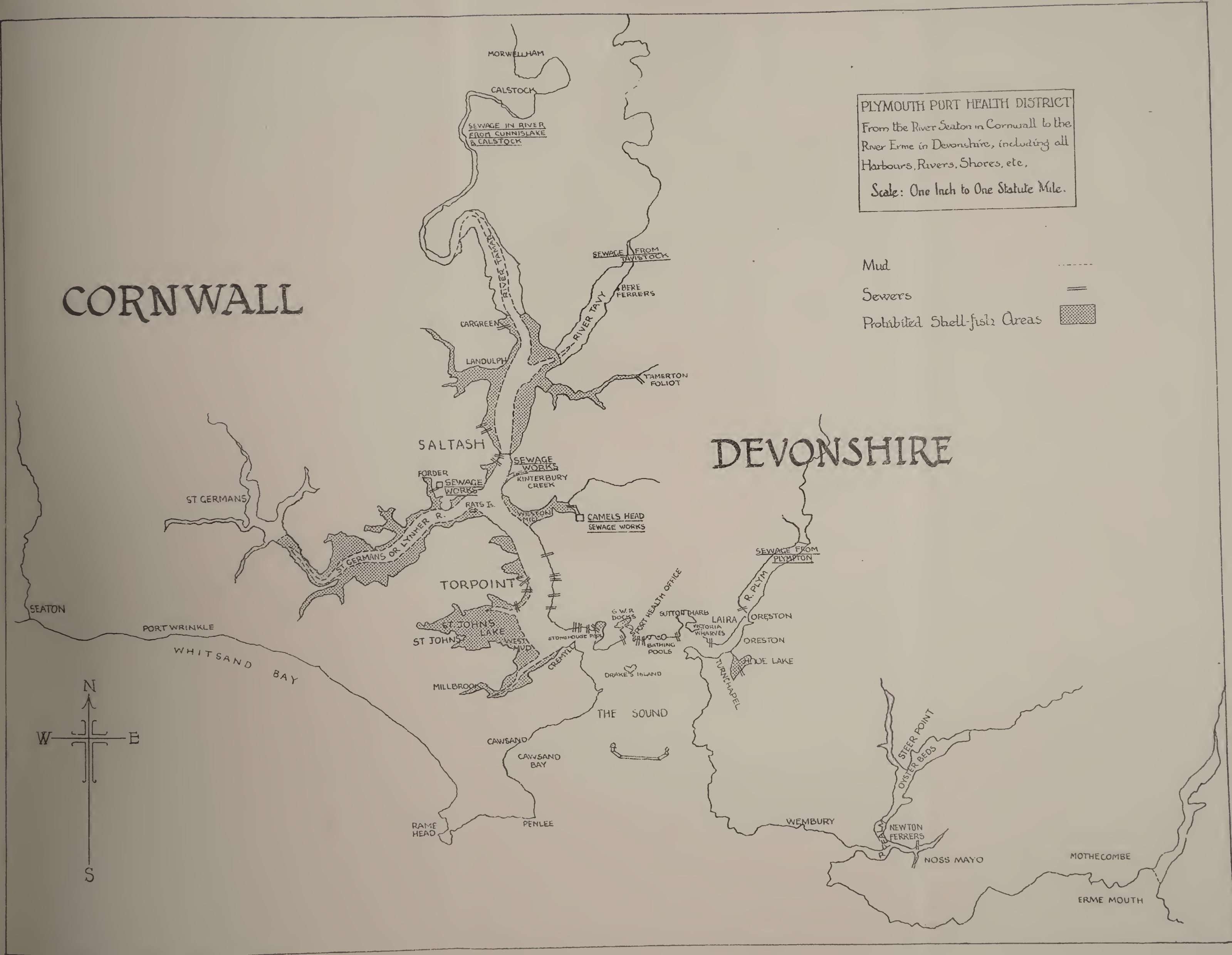
By the use of two sedimentation tanks it is possible to have a continuous supply of “clean” sea-water for purposes of purification.

Full attention is given to details of cleanliness, and all tanks are scrubbed out before being refilled.

I am pleased to report that so far the method used has been successful and that bacteriological reports have all been very satisfactory throughout the oyster season 1937–1938.



OYSTER CLEANSING TANKS, RIVER YEALM.



PUBLIC HEALTH (SHELLFISH) REGULATIONS, 1934.

Reference to the map on page 152A will show that a large amount of untreated sewage is discharged into the Hamoaze and Hooe Lake. Unfortunately, a certain amount of shellfish (cockles, mussels, limpets and winkles) is collected from these places for sale, although the trade is very small and purely local. Bacteriological examination of the water showed that the layings were polluted, and the shellfish were found to be unfit for human consumption. An Order was made by the City Council under the Public Health (Cleansing of Shellfish) Regulations, 1934, closing the following layings:—Hooe Lake; The Hamoaze, including West Mud; St. John's Lake; off Torpoint Institution; Weston Mill Lake; off Rats' Island; the Mouth of the St. Germans River; off Saltash; and in the River Tamar and its tributaries. This Order became operative on December 1st, 1937.

Shellfish sold in the City of Plymouth come from the following sources:—

Cockles	...	King's Lynn.
Limpets	...	Foreshore from Mount Batten to Wembury. Port Wrinkle, Cornwall.
Mussels	...	Padstow, Cornwall.
Periwinkles	...	Foreshore from Mount Batten to Wembury. Port Wrinkle, Cornwall. Padstow, Cornwall.
Oysters	...	Brightlingsea, Essex. Billingsgate Market, London. River Yealm, Steer Point.
Queens and Escallops	...	Plymouth and Brixham, landed by trawlers.
Whelks	...	Plymouth, Brixham and Torbay, landed by trawlers.

Swimming Pools. *Tinside.* Prior to the opening of the Swimming Season a Chlorination Plant was installed at the Tinside Swimming Pool. During the season 37 samples of water were taken for bacteriological examination, and the results were satisfactory. The concentration of free chlorine has been kept between 0.1 and 0.4 parts per million, and there have been no serious complaints attributable to the presence of chlorine.

Mount Wise Swimming Baths. Thirteen samples were taken from No. 1 basin, and fifteen from No. 2 basin. The results were satisfactory.

Other Swimming Places. Unfortunately, many of the sites favoured by bathers are situated in close proximity to various sewer outfalls. The map on page 152A shows the sewer outfalls from the City which discharge into the surrounding sea and tidal rivers.

Foodstuffs. A systematic inspection of foodstuffs landed in the Port resulted in 755 vessels being visited in this connection, and nearly 39 tons of foodstuff were dealt with as being unsound, unwholesome, and otherwise unfit for human consumption. Details are given in the following table:—

FOODS CONDEMNED DURING THE YEAR 1937.						
<i>Division.</i>			T.	C.	Q.	LBS. <i>Disposal.</i>
3.	Apples	... 3 tins			1	9 To Incinerator.
	Apricots	... 1 tin				2 do.
	Apricot Pulps	28 tins		3	2	0 do.
	Corned Beef	4 tins			1	0 do.
	Hams	... 32 tins		4	0	3 do.
	Pines	... 35 tins			1	24 do.
	Prunes	... 2 tins				10 do.
	Veal	... 38 tins		2	3	14 do.
4.	Apples	... ...		5	0	0 For Pigs' Food.
	Grapes	... ...		10	0	0 To Refuse Dump.
	Lemons	... ...		5	0	0 do.
	Oranges	... ...		15	0	0 do.
	Potatoes	... ...	35	0	0	0 For Pigs' Food.
5.	Wheat	... ...		19	2	0 do.
TOTAL ...			38	6	0	6

Two parcels of apples were found to contain .021 and .035 grains arsenious oxide per pound. As the average permissible is .01 per pound, the apples in each case were returned to Liverpool under Guarantee for re-conditioning.

TABLE E.
RATS DESTROYED DURING 1937.

I. ON VESSELS.

<i>Number of</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Black Rats ...	—	—	—	9	—	—	5	103	28	4	9	22	185
Brown Rats ...	—	39	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	42
Species not recorded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rats examined ...	—	10	—	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	4	—	25
Rats infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE F.

II. IN DOCKS, QUAYS, WHARVES AND WAREHOUSES.

<i>Number of</i>	<i>Jan.</i>	<i>Feb.</i>	<i>Mar.</i>	<i>April</i>	<i>May</i>	<i>June</i>	<i>July</i>	<i>Aug.</i>	<i>Sept.</i>	<i>Oct.</i>	<i>Nov.</i>	<i>Dec.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Black Rats ...	—	—	—	—	4	2	1	1	7	4	2	—	21
Brown Rats ...	119	94	119	130	125	92	139	76	79	144	140	117	1,374
Species not recorded ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rats examined ...	5	4	3	1	8	—	—	—	—	5	5	—	31
Rats infected with Plague	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

TABLE G.
MEASURES OF RAT DESTRUCTION ON PLAGUE "INFECTED" OR "SUSPECTED" VESSELS OR
VESSELS FROM PLAGUE-INFECTED PORTS ARRIVING IN THE PORT DURING 1937.

Total Number of such Vessels arriving from Plague infected Ports.	Number of such Vessels fumigated by S.O.2.	Number of Rats killed.	Number of such Vessels fumigated by H.C.N.	Number of Rats killed.	Number of such Vessels on which trapping, poisoning, etc., were employed.	Number of Rats killed.	Number of such Vessels on which measures of Rat destruction were not carried out.
82	—	—	—	—	82	227	—

TABLE H.
DERATISATION CERTIFICATES AND DERATISATION EXEMPTION CERTIFICATES ISSUED
DURING 1937.

Net Tonnage.	No. of Ships.	No. OF DERATISATION CERTIFICATES ISSUED.					No. of Deratisation Exemption Certificates issued.	Total Certificates issued.
		After fumigation with				Total.		
		H.C.N.	Sulphur.	H.C.N. and Sulphur.	After Trapping, Poisoning, etc.			
Ships up to 300 tons ...	19	—	—	—	—	19	19	
Ships from 301 tons to 1000 tons ...	12	—	—	—	—	12	12	
Ships from 1001 tons to 3000 tons ...	5	—	—	—	1	4	5	
Ships from 3001 tons to 10,000 tons ...	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	
TOTAL ...	37	—	—	—	1	36	37	

TABLE J.
CLASSIFICATION OF NUISANCES.

Nationality of Vessel.	Number inspected during 1937.	Defects of original construction.	Structural defects through wear and tear.	Dirt, vermin and other conditions prejudicial to health.
British	1686	—	16	31
Other Nations ...	579	—	36	21

RECORDS OF VESSELS INSPECTED, TONNAGE, CREWS, PASSENGERS, SICKNESS, ETC., FOR THE

TEN YEARS ENDED 1937.

Y-ar	No. of Vessels In- spected	NATIONALITY		No. of Crews on Board	Registered Tonnage	SICKNESS		PASSENGERS		Deaths	Landed for Treat- ment	INSANITARY	
		British	Foreign			During Voyage	In- fectious	On Board	Landing			No. of Vessels	No. of Defects
1928	2,869	2,155	714	251,583	6,740,888	853	448	208,187	43,963	61	151	127	690
1929	2,261	1,781	480	248,119	6,565,530	1,224	636	213,386	47,471	71	134	103	633
1930	2,071	1,424	647	267,973	7,343,851	1,401	637	224,753	45,002	60	160	83	314
1931	1,940	1,363	577	225,010	6,612,552	1,321	776	180,285	34,744	60	108	55	212
1932	1,994	1,475	519	195,516	6,538,655	1,226	778	156,874	31,468	36	207	27	284
1933	2,082	1,542	540	215,972	6,609,646	702	394	120,916	28,264	55	85	13	94
1934	2,105	1,175	1,030	191,569	6,666,558	224	116	128,177	31,417	55	22	31	146
1935	1,980	1,445	535	154,777	5,493,853	333	276	110,963	34,634	52	14	45	183
1936	2,269	1,280	989	177,468	5,481,037	207	190	100,912	31,572	55	23	59	262
1937	2,265	1,686	579	215,879	5,735,941	187	174	107,001	33,256	50	15	49	104

School Medical Service

REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE FOR THE YEAR 1937.

No. on roll of Elementary Schools, 1937	...	...	...	26743
Average attendance	...	...	...	24306
No. on roll of Secondary Schools	...	...	...	2096
Average attendance	...	...	...	2015

Staff Changes.

Dr. C. R. Crowther part-time Ear Specialist died on 14th September, 1937. Dr. R. Howarth was appointed part-time Ear Specialist on 21st September, 1937.

Nurse E. M. Harris died on 25th May, 1937. Her duties as Dental Attendant have been taken over by Mrs. Powell who was appointed temporarily on 8th Feb., 1937 and permanently on 4th Oct., 1937.

School Hygiene.

The following are the more important of the alterations in school premises during the year.

1. Adaptation of premises of former Corporation Grammar School for use as a Junior Mixed School.
2. Opening of Devonport High School for Girls.
3. Improvement of heating arrangements at Sutton High School for Boys.
4. Installation of electric light at Mount Tamar Open-Air, Castle Street Infants', Camels Head, Ker Street Infants' and King Street Schools (W.C. Blocks).
5. Provision of Drinking Fountains at Castle Street Infants', Hyde Park Girls', Hyde Park Infants', Laira Green Junior Mixed, Morice Town Boys', Paradise Road Junior Mixed, Sutton Road and Union Street Boys' Schools.
6. Improvement of water supply, Salisbury Road School.
7. Provision of additional wash-hand basins and water heater, Wolsdon Street Junior Mixed School.
8. Making of temporary cloakroom and formation of new entrance at Devonport High School for Boys.
9. Alterations and additions to St. Andrew's C. of E. and Holy Cross R.C. Schools in accordance with the plans approved by the Board of Education.
10. Trinity C. of E. School—use as Public Elementary School discontinued.
11. Improvement of playground, High Street School.

Co-ordination.

From September 1st all the School Medical Clinics became available for the treatment of young children attending the Clinics of the Infant Welfare Department. The arrangement is that the parent of the child brings a note from the Infant Welfare Department addressed to the School Medical Officer who arranges the time and place for treatment. Payment for each case is made to the Education Authority by the Public Health Committee.

Medical Inspection.

All children in the prescribed groups have been inspected and re-inspected during the year. In addition to these routine examinations, there have been 9,531 special examinations held for the most part at one or other of the various clinics. All of these were "new cases." The popular impression that a School Medical Officer sees a child three times in the course of its school life is by no means the whole truth. This figure for special examinations does not include examinations by the Eye and Ear, Nose and Throat specialists in these respective Clinics.

The arrangements made for routine inspections in schools are in the majority of cases completely satisfactory. To ensure this Head Teachers often have to put themselves to considerable inconvenience. The essentials are a room measuring at least 20 feet in one direction, good light—natural or artificial, adequate heating and the necessary furniture. A dressing room is of great advantage and prevents much waste of time ; in Secondary Schools it is practically a necessity. Lastly, suitable waiting accommodation for waiting parents outside the actual examination room.

Findings of Medical Inspection.

Ringworm of the head continues to show a tendency to increase. This coincides with the fact that for some time it was not possible to get X-Ray treatment. Even now such treatment cannot be obtained locally and our children have to be sent to Torquay.

The Scabies rate remains high.

Treatment.

There have been no alterations in the general arrangements for treatment.

Tonsils and adenoids.

Pressure of work at the City Hospital has necessitated some lengthening of the waiting period for many of the Tonsil and Adenoid operations, but special spurts, whenever possible, prevented any real decrease in the total numbers operated upon.

Dental.

The installation of electric engines in all the Dental Clinics has been greatly appreciated by the Dentists. Compared with 1936, there is some increase in the number of sessions given to treatment, and decrease in the number given to inspection. The numbers of both extractions and fillings were slightly less. The regrettably long intervals between many of the school inspections still continue. The benefits of a public dental service of the school variety are intended for those children whose parents are, from the day their children enter school, willing for annual inspection of their children's teeth followed by all the treatment advised by the dental surgeon. Only one consent form should be necessary given at the start of the child's school career. A school dental service should be congratulated, not for the number of fillings done, nor for the number of extractions left undone, nor for the number of acceptances to treatment it has received in any particular year, but for the number of children of school leaving age it can point to as having in the 10 or more years of their school life, been, each of them, annually inspected and treated by the school dentist. In other words, however skilful and untiring the dental Surgeons may be, a school dental service cannot be truly successful without the understanding and co-operation of those it is intended to serve.

Following up.

The general arrangements for following up remain unchanged. The figures for Nurses' visits for the year are:—

6 Clinic Nurses.

Ordinary follow up visits	...	...	...	...	2787
Visits for neglect (uncleanliness)	...	...	...	...	222
Visits for taking swabs from diphtheria contacts	...	...	...	...	226
Swabs taken	...	...	...	...	943
Visits to Hospital	...	...	...	...	112

Other work done by the Clinic Nurses is summarized as follows:—

Sessions spent in Treatment Clinics	...	...	...	1668
„ with Medical Officer at Routine				
Inspections in Schools	...	...	525	
„ In Cleanliness Inspections in Schools			310	
„ Inspecting children in Schools for				
missed cases of Infectious Disease			14	
„ with Medical Officer doing Diphtheria				
Immunisations in Schools	...	...	75	

The above figures in certain instances relate to employment during the major part of a session only. A considerable amount of visiting is done during spare time in the sessions numerated above.

Visits to homes paid by Nurses allocated to special departments:—

Dental	...	...	...	...	...	1609
Eye	...	...	...	...	...	284
Open-Air Schools			...	...	...	303
Special M.D. School			...	...	...	273

Arrangements for treatment.

Figures relating to Minor Ailment Clinics, Eye Clinic, Treatment of Nose and Throat by operation, Orthopædic defects and Dental Clinics are set forth in Tables IV and V.

Additional figures are:—

Orthopædic Clinics—

Number treated during 1937	...	...	...	...	190
Number under treatment December 31st, 1936				...	116
Number admitted during 1937	...	...	...	...	74
Number discharged during 1937	...	...	...	...	88
Number under treatment on December 31st, 1937				...	102

Medical Officers examinations—

New Cases	...	...	...	...	...	71
Old Cases	...	...	...	...	...	422
Number of Plasters made			...	...	...	70
New boots supplied	...	...	...	...	...	115
Repairs to boots	...	...	...	...	...	1403
Leather repairs, etc.	...	...	...	...	...	243
Celluloid splints made	...	...	...	...	...	3

The following are the causes for admission to Mount Gold Hospital (residential orthopædic school):—

Division of Subscapularis and Latissimus Dorsi	1
Torticollis	2
Tenotomy Tendo Achillis	1
Scoliosis (extension)	1
Dunn's Operation	1
Lumbar Sympathectomy	1
Arthrodesis of Shoulder	1
Tendon Lengthening	2
Scoliosis	1
Osteomyelitis	2
Observation (Cerebellar lesion)	1
Ant Poliomyelitis	1
Division of Pronator Radii-Teres	1
Perthe's Disease	1
Removal of Int. Semilunar Cart.	1
Spinal Deformity	1
Soultar's Operation	1
Hammer Toes	1

Free Milk.

Numbers receiving free milk from the Authority as Medical Tréatment under Section 80 of the Education Act, 1921:—

Number receiving free milk on January 1st, 1937	85
Number added to the list during 1937	93
Number removed from the list during 1937	84
Number on list at 31st December, 1937	94

Of these last, 74 were receiving one-third of a pint daily in school and 20 were receiving two-thirds of a pint daily in school.

All were examined at three-monthly intervals. The majority showed not merely increase of weight, but a definite rise in the rate of increase of weight.

Milk in Schools Scheme.

Approximately 50% of school children took advantage of this scheme during the year.

Ear Clinic.

The figures for 1937 are:—

Attendances	899
New Cases	310
Ionisations	60

Defective Children.

396 were brought forward as seemingly unfit to benefit by the instruction in an ordinary school. All these have been examined by the Authority's Certifying Officers.

82 were certified as mentally defective and recommended for the appropriate special school.

10 were certified as mentally defective and reported to the Local Control Authority.

259 were certified as physically defective and recommended for the Open-Air School.

22 were certified as physically defective and recommended for the Orthopædic Hospital School.

1 was certified as physically defective and recommended for a Residential School.

1 was certified deaf.

1 was certified partially deaf.

2 were certified blind.

3 were certified partially blind.

1 was certified epileptic.

14 were found not to be defective and deserving of further trial in an ordinary school.

Child Guidance Clinic.

The following cases were referred to the Child Guidance Clinic:—

Habit Peculiarities	...	...	3
Mental Misery	...	...	1
Eneuresis (bed wetting)		...	20
Insomnia	...	...	1
Stammering	...	...	1
Nervousness	...	...	6
Tics	...	...	2
Pilfering	...	...	1
Somnambulism	...	...	1

Special Schools.

For Feeble-minded Children.

Girls and Junior Mixed Department :

	<i>Boys.</i>	<i>Girls.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
No. of admissions during the year	38	27	65
No. of discharges to ordinary schools	—	—	—
Transfers to Salisbury Road Special			
Boys 	29	—	29
Left	4	30	34
Average attendance 	—	—	115

Boys' Department.

The following are extracts from the report of Mr. Fee, the Head Teacher:—

Number on Roll: December, 1936	...	...	...	138
„ admitted during the year	...	...	...	47
„ left during the year	...	...	...	52
„ on Roll : December, 1937	...	...	...	133
Average attendance during year	...	...	...	114
Average number on Roll	...	...	...	136
Percentage attendance	...	...	...	84
Became over age (16 years)	...	...	...	9
Exempt for employment under supervision (15 + )	...	...	...	20
Left the district	...	...	...	8
To Residential Institutions	...	...	...	5
To Private Schools	...	...	...	2
Incapable of receiving further benefit from school	...	...	...	6
Found fit to attend ordinary schools	...	...	...	2

“ Regular physical exercises have been carried out daily.”

“ Careful attention has been paid to regular weighing and measuring and much valuable data has been collected. Our statistics only date back to 1934, but they are providing valuable material and graphs for the study of the physical development of this type of child.”

“ Each case is compared with the Standard measurements supplied by the S.M.O. and any boy showing a deviation of ten per cent. from these standards is presented to the S.M.O. for special examination.”

“ For many of these a daily milk ration is prescribed.”

“ Milk is also supplied to any child willing to pay a half-penny a bottle and during the year over 17,000 bottles of milk have been supplied to the children.”

- “ In Camp at Laira during three weeks in July over 5,000 bottles of milk were used. Each boy had three bottles per day. One was consumed in the morning after physical exercise. The second with dinner. The dinner was provided by the boys who brought sandwiches, eggs, fruit, pasties, etc.—“ like father takes to work ” and the milk added to this made a generous meal. The third bottle of milk was taken in the afternoon after preparations had been made for the homeward journey.”
- “ Again the Camp was enjoyed and provided opportunity for exercise and work in the open air. After each visit to Camp one feels that such a place as the Laira Battery is ideal for our boys, and one wishes that the School could be removed permanently into such a situation.”
- “ Many boys are unable to get home for their mid-day meal. Over a hundred boys are on the ‘ Dinner List.’ Of these, twenty-seven pay the full price, 3d. per meal. Thirty-seven are exempt from payment and the remainder pay according to the parents’ stated ability to pay. The parents of some dozen boys prefer to send lunch with their boys.”
- “ On an average sixty school dinners are served each day.”
- “ The boys under 14 years of age are classified according to age in four groups. They are re-classified according to ability for English and for Arithmetic so that properly graded work can be done in classes of about twenty. The classification is by regular tests and examination of work records. Generally Dr. Burt’s tests are used.”
- “ Every care is taken to ensure continuity of instruction and all work is carefully marked, recorded and graphed so as to ensure that the progress of each boy is carefully noted during the year.”
- “ Although individual instruction is necessary, collective instruction plays a great part and only in that way can the attention of the classes be maintained and increased.”
- “ Generally Physical Exercises and the 3 R’s are taken in the morning sessions.”
- “ In the afternoons Project work is carried out along individual lines by the various masters. Music and Games come into the afternoon sessions.”

- “ The boys over 14 come into the Worksheds. Here are established Woodwork and Handicraft Classes, Shoemaking and Repairing and Gardening. These subjects become the medium through which the whole of the lad's education is now supplied. There is no ‘ School atmosphere,’ no formal lessons in the 3 R's. A new attitude to work is soon seen, boys are encouraged, especially in the Model making classes to develop along lines of their own particular fancy. Boys who have hitherto seemed useless and aimless in School suddenly show ability in other directions and this is fostered and cultivated.”
- “ Although no further lessons are now received, the 3 R's are still needed for the carrying out of the daily tasks, and each term as before, the routine tests are worked. Comparison of results show that there is no great falling off in results but rather general progress in attainments is shown.”
- “ Any boy not showing steady progress in his work is presented to the S.M.O. for examination with a view to determining the future treatment required.”
- “ The work of the Staff of this School is excellent, they are a team, and each one places first in his interests, the welfare of the School and the Scholars.”
- “ Perhaps that is why each visitor remarks on the happiness of the lads who seem to be enjoying school.”
- “ During the year our Visiting Member, Councillor R. F. Axworthy, made his usual visits, and we are again indebted to him for his kindly given help and criticisms.”
- “ Mrs. C. T. Lynes, a member of the Medical Sub-Committee, also visited this School and expressed her pleasure in the happiness shown in School by the children.”
- “ Mr. Lumsden, H.M.I., with Mr. Simmonds, H.M.I., made a brief visit in June.”
- “ Many visits were paid by parents and many interesting contacts made.”
- “ Other visitors have included employers who have come to discuss the boys under them and in some cases who require lads.”

Open-Air Schools.

Mount Tamar.

Admissions during the year	...	...	197
Discharges during the year	...	...	163
Average attendance	...	...	148
Children in residence numbered	...	...	14
(7 boys and 7 girls)			

Efford.

Admissions during the year	...	...	108
Discharges during the year	...	...	110
Average attendances	...	...	124

The following are the reports of the School Nurses attached to the Special Schools:—

(1) *Schools for Feeble-minded children:—*

Total " treatments " of minor ailments	...	...	9086
Routine Head inspection	...	...	741
Head Cleanings	...	...	142

(2) *Open-Air Schools:—*

	<i>Mount Tamar</i>	<i>Efford</i>
Treatments at Clinic	8117	4875
Head Cleanings	292	26
Baths given	1828	1426
Total number of individual children found with verminous heads	48	26

Hartley House School for the Deaf and Partially Deaf.

	<i>Boys</i>	<i>Girls</i>
Number on Roll: January, 1937	16	13
Number admitted during the year	1	5
Number discharged during the year	5	3
Number on Roll: December, 1937	12	15

Of these, 12 girls and 8 boys are recorded as being totally deaf, and 3 girls and 4 boys are recorded as being partially deaf.

Secondary Schools.

All the children have been inspected as required by the Board of Education.

The figures for inspection and treatment under the Authority's schemes are set out in the Board of Education Tables appended.

PUBLIC ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS.

TABLE I. RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1937.

A. ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

Number of Inspections in the prescribed Groups:—

Entrants	2760
Second Age Group	2336
Third Age Group	2134

Total ... 7230

Number of other Routine Inspections ... 188

Grand Total ... 7418

B. OTHER INSPECTIONS.

Number of Special Inspections ... 9531

Number of Re-Inspections ... 15262

Total ... 24793

C. CHILDREN FOUND TO REQUIRE TREATMENT.

Number of Individual Children found at Routine Medical Inspection to Require Treatment (excluding Defects of Nutrition, Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

<i>Group</i>	<i>For defective vision (excluding squint)</i>	<i>For all other conditions recorded in Table IIa</i>	<i>Total</i>
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Entrants	19	509	524
Second Age Group ...	223	432	601
Third Age Group ...	242	278	486
Total (Prescribed Groups)	484	1219	1611
Other Routine Inspections	9	27	29
Grand Total	493	1246	1640

TABLE II.

**A. RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL
INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.**

Defect or Disease (1)					Routine Inspections		Special Inspections	
					No. of Defects		No. of Defects	
					Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment
					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Skin	1. Ringworm—Scalp	...	...	...	4	4	28	—
	2. " Body	...	...	...	2	2	81	—
	3. Scabies	...	...	...	12	1	183	2
	4. Impetigo	...	...	...	24	2	215	—
	5. Other Diseases (Non-Tuberculous)	...	...	...	73	39	381	—
Total (Heads 1 to 5)					115	48	888	2
Eye	6. Blepharitis	...	...	...	26	13	15	—
	7. Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	10	—	29	—
	8. Keratitis	...	...	...	2	—	2	—
	9. Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	2	3	—	—
	10. Other Conditions (Excluding Defective Vision and Squint)	...	...	...	17	28	82	—
Total (Heads 6 to 10)					57	44	128	—
Ear	11. Defective Vision (Excluding Squint)	...	...	...	493	490	198	3
	12. Squint	...	...	...	68	117	67	1
	13. Defective Hearing	...	...	...	23	18	26	2
	14. Otitis Media	...	...	...	55	6	57	1
	15. Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	55	14	137	—
Nose & Throat	16. Chronic Tonsillitis only	...	...	...	400	306	420	1
	17. Adenoids only	...	...	...	42	79	9	—
	18. Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	...	...	...	63	28	13	—
	19. Other Conditions	...	...	...	56	120	388	—
20. Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)					39	132	6	—
21. Defective Speech					8	25	26	—
Heart Disease :								
Heart and Circulation	22. Organic	...	...	...	13	28	1	1
	23. Functional	...	...	...	3	29	3	1
	24. Anæmia	...	...	...	36	26	13	—
Lungs	25. Bronchitis	...	...	...	36	77	85	—
	26. Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	15	94	36	—
	Pulmonary :							
Tuber- culosis	27. Definite	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
	28. Suspected	...	...	...	5	5	—	—
	Non-Pulmonary :							
	29. Glands	...	...	...	—	—	1	—
	30. Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
	31. Skin	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
32. Other Forms					—	2	2	—
Total (Heads 29 to 32)					—	2	3	—
Nervous System	33. Epilepsy	...	...	...	—	4	9	1
	34. Chorea	...	...	...	2	2	6	1
	35. Other Conditions	...	...	...	5	9	3	—
Deform ities	36. Rickets	...	...	...	3	13	—	—
	37. Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	4	3	7	—
	38. Other forms	...	...	...	38	67	49	1
39. Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Defects of Nutrition Uncleanliness & Dental Diseases)					139	195	3346	3
TOTAL NUMBER OF DEFECTS					1774	2485	5924	18

TABLE II.

B. CLASSIFICATION OF THE NUTRITION OF CHILDREN INSPECTED DURING THE YEAR
IN THE ROUTINE AGE GROUPS.

Age Groups	Number of Children Inspected	A. (Excellent)		B. (Normal)		C. (Slightly Sub-Normal)		D. (Bad)	
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Entrants ...	2760	444	16.09	2289	82.93	27	.98	—	—
Second Age-Group ...	2336	296	12.67	1994	85.36	46	1.97	—	—
Third Age-Group ...	2134	431	20.2	1677	78.58	26	1.22	—	—
Other Routine Inspections	188	13	6.91	175	93.09	—	—	—	—
TOTAL ...	7418	1184	15.96	6135	82.7	99	1.33	—	—

TABLE III.
RETURN OF ALL EXCEPTIONAL CHILDREN IN
THE AREA.

(YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.)

BLIND CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
14	—	—	1	15

PARTIALLY SIGHTED CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Blind.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Sighted.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
—	2	—	—	3	5

DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
20	—	—	—	20

PARTIALLY DEAF CHILDREN.

At Certified Schools for the Deaf.	At Certified Schools for the Partially Deaf.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
—	7	—	—	—	7

MENTALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

Feeble Minded Children.

At Certified Schools for Mentally Defective Children	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institutions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
300	—	24	—	324

EPILEPTIC CHILDREN.

Children Suffering from Severe Epilepsy.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
1	—	—	1	2

PHYSICALLY DEFECTIVE CHILDREN.

A. TUBERCULOUS CHILDREN.

1. *Children Suffering from Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

(Including pleura and intra-thoracic glands.)

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
2	—	11	2	15

2. *Children Suffering from Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.*

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
11	—	4	3	18

B. DELICATE CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
291	17	—	—	308

C. CRIPPLED CHILDREN.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
18	9	—	—	27

D. CHILDREN WITH HEART DISEASE.

At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elementary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institution.	Total.
—	—	—	1	1

CHILDREN SUFFERING FROM MULTIPLE DEFECTS.

Blindness (excluding partially sighted children).

Deafness (excluding partially deaf children).

Mental Defect (feeble-minded).

Severe Epilepsy.

Active Tuberculosis.

Crippling (as defined in Section C above).

Heart Disease.

Combination of Defect.	At Certified Special Schools.	At Public Elemen- tary Schools.	At other Institu- tions.	At no School or Institu- tion.	Total.
		NIL			

TABLE IV.

RETURN OF DEFECTS TREATED DURING THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

Group I.—MINOR AILMENTS (Excluding Uncleanliness, for which see Table VI).

<i>Disease or Defect.</i> (1)	<i>Number of Defects treated, or under treatment during the year.</i>		
	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i> (2)	<i>Otherwise.</i> (3)	<i>Total.</i> (4)
Skin—			
Ringworm—Scalp :—			
(i) X-Ray Treatment ...	7	—	7
(ii) Other Treatment ...	19	1	20
Ringworm—Body ...	102	—	102
Scabies ...	165	12	177
Impetigo ...	300	1	301
Other Skin Diseases ...	1169	4	1173
Minor Eye Defects— (External and other, but ex- cluding cases falling in Group II.) ...	104	1	105
Minor Ear Defects ...	241	7	248
Miscellaneous— (e.g. minor injuries, bruises, sores, chilblains, etc.) ...	7127	308	7435
TOTAL ...	9234	334	9568

TABLE IV.—(Contd.)

Group II.—DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments—Group I.)

<i>Disease or Defect.</i>	<i>No. of Defects dealt with</i>		
	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme</i>	<i>Otherwise</i>	<i>Total</i>
ERRORS OF REFRACTION (including Squint) (Operations for Squint should be recorded separately in the body of the School Medical Officer's Report). Other defect or disease of the eyes (excluding those re- corded in Group I) ...	2097 187	96 7	2193 194
TOTAL ...	2284	103	2387
No. of Children for whom spectacles were :			
(a) Prescribed	997	87	1084
(b) Obtained	856	228	1084

GROUP III.
TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

<i>Number of Defects.</i>									
<i>Received Operative Treatment.</i>									
<i>Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.</i> (1)				<i>By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.</i> (2)				<i>Total.</i> (3)	
i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.
182	25	63	—	59	3	34	—	241	28
								97	—
								562	928

i. Tonsils only. ii. Adenoids only. iii. Tonsils and Adenoids. iv. Other defects of the nose and throat.

Group IV.—ORTHOPAEDIC AND POSTURAL DEFECTS.

	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i> (1)			<i>Otherwise.</i> (2)		
	<i>Residential treatment with education.</i> (i)	<i>Residential treatment without education.</i> (ii)	<i>Non-Residential treatment at an Orthopaedic Clinic.</i> (iii)	<i>Residential treatment with education.</i> (i)	<i>Residential treatment without education.</i> (ii)	<i>Non-Residential treatment at an Orthopaedic Clinic.</i> (iii)
	30	—	160	—	—	2
	Number of Children treated					Total number treated.
						192

TABLE V.

DENTAL INSPECTION AND TREATMENT.

(1) Number of children inspected by the Dentist :—

(a) Routine Age Groups.

Age.	5 & under	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14 & over	TOTAL.
Number	1235	874	1050	1000	926	974	749	1012	1061	753	9634

(b) Specials 3,178

(c) TOTAL (Routine and Specials) 12,812

(2) Number found to require treatment 10,760

(3) Number actually treated 7,842

(4) Attendances made by children for treatment 16,583

(5) Half-days devoted to—

Inspection 127

Treatment 1,818 ... 1,945

(6) Fillings—

Permanent Teeth 7,618

Temporary Teeth 586 ... 8,204

(7) Extractions—

Permanent Teeth 3,124

Temporary Teeth 12,281 ... 15,405

(8) Administrations of general anæsthetics for extractions 4,152

(9) Other operations—

Permanent Teeth 1,910

Temporary Teeth 92 ... 2,002

TABLE VI.

UNCLEANLINESS AND VERMINOUS CONDITIONS.

(i)	Average number of visits per school made during the year by the School Nurses	...	...	3.7
(ii)	Total number of examinations of children in the schools by School Nurses	...	...	62931
(iii)	Number of <i>individual</i> children found unclean	...		2911
(iv)	Number of individual children cleansed under arrangements made by the Local Education Authority			195
(v)	Number of cases in which legal proceedings were taken :—			
	(a) Under the Education Act, 1921	...	...	Nil
	(b) Under School Attendance Bye-laws		...	Nil

SECONDARY AND HIGHER SCHOOLS.

TABLE VII.

RETURN OF MEDICAL INSPECTIONS FOR THE YEAR
ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

A, ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTIONS.

	<i>Age.</i>									Total.
	<i>10</i>	<i>11</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>17 & over</i>	<i>Special</i>	
Boys ...	25	155	296	386	193	162	71	38	1	1327
Girls ...	40	128	187	163	167	81	40	14	1	821
Total	65	283	483	549	360	243	111	52	2	2148

B, NUMBER OF INDIVIDUAL CHILDREN FOUND AT
ROUTINE MEDICAL INSPECTION TO REQUIRE
TREATMENT (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases).

TABLE VIII.

RETURN OF DEFECTS FOUND BY MEDICAL INSPECTION IN THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1937.

Defect or Disease					Routine Inspections		Special Inspections		
					No. of Defects		No. of Defects		
					Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	Requiring Treatment	Requiring to be kept under observation but not requiring Treatment	
(1)					(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	
Skin	{	1. Ringworm, Scalp	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
		2. " Body	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
		3. Scabies	...	...	...	1	1	—	—
		4. Impetigo	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
		5. Other Diseases (non-tuberculous)				37	33	—	—
Total (Heads 1 to 5)					38	34	—	—	
Eye	{	6. Blepharitis	...	...	...	12	3	—	—
		7. Conjunctivitis	...	...	...	2	—	—	—
		8. Keratitis	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
		9. Corneal Opacities	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
		10. Other Conditions (excluding defective vision and Squint)	...			4	3	1	—
Total (Heads 6 to 10)					19	7	1	—	
Ear	{	11. Defective Vision (excluding Squint)	...	...	...	139	400	1	—
		12. Squint	...	...	...	22	28	—	—
		13. Defective Hearing	...	...	...	19	—	—	—
		14. Otitis Media	...	...	...	11	2	—	—
		15. Other Ear Diseases	...	...	...	10	11	—	—
Nose and Throat	{	16. Chronic Tonsillitis only	...	...	...	29	120	—	—
		17. Adenoids only	...	...	...	7	16	—	—
		18. Chronic Tonsillitis and Adenoids	...	...	...	8	5	—	—
	{	19. Other Conditions	...	...	...	8	8	—	—
		20. Enlarged Cervical Glands (Non-Tuberculous)	...	...	...	2	8	—	—
21. Defective Speech					2	5	—	—	
Heart Disease :									
Heart and Circulation	{	22. Organic	...	...	...	3	3	—	—
		23. Functional	...	...	...	4	18	—	—
		24. Anæmia	...	...	...	13	10	—	—
Lungs	{	25. Bronchitis	...	...	...	—	2	—	—
		26. Other Non-Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	3	13	—	—
Tuber- culosis	{	Pulmonary :							
		27. Definite	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
		28. Suspected	...	...	...	1	1	1	—
		Non-Pulmonary :							
		29. Glands	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
		30. Bones and Joints	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
		31. Skin	...	...	...	—	—	—	—
32. Other Forms					—	—	—	—	
Total (Heads 29 to 32)					—	—	—	—	
Nervous System	{	33. Epilepsy	...	...	...	1	—	—	—
		34. Chorea	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
		35. Other Conditions	...	...	...	4	11	—	—
Deform- ities	{	36. Rickets	...	...	...	—	1	—	—
		37. Spinal Curvature	...	...	...	5	—	—	—
		38. Other Forms	...	...	...	168	35	—	—
39. Other Defects and Diseases (excluding Uncleanliness and Dental Diseases)					45	54	—	—	
TOTAL					561	793	2	—	

TABLE IX.

DEFECTIVE VISION AND SQUINT.

(Excluding Minor Eye Defects treated as Minor Ailments).

<i>Defect or Disease.</i>	<i>Number of Defects dealt with.</i>		
	<i>Under the Authority's Scheme.</i>	<i>Otherwise.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Errors of Refraction (including Squint) ...	139	44	183
Other Defect or Disease of the Eyes ...	—	9	9
TOTAL ...	139	53	192
<i>Number of Children for whom Spectacles were:</i>			
(a) Prescribed ...	123	41	164
(b) Obtained ...	62	102	164

TABLE X.
TREATMENT OF DEFECTS OF NOSE AND THROAT.

<i>Number of Defects.</i>									
<i>Received Operative Treatment.</i>									
<i>Under the Authority's Scheme, in Clinic or Hospital.</i> (1)				<i>By Private Practitioner or Hospital, apart from the Authority's Scheme.</i> (2)				<i>Total.</i> (3)	
i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.	iii.	iv.	i.	ii.
7	—	2	—	4	—	1	—	11	—
								3	—
								3	—
								17	

i. Tonsils only. ii. Adenoids only. iii. Tonsils and adenoids. iv. Other defects of the nose and throat.

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